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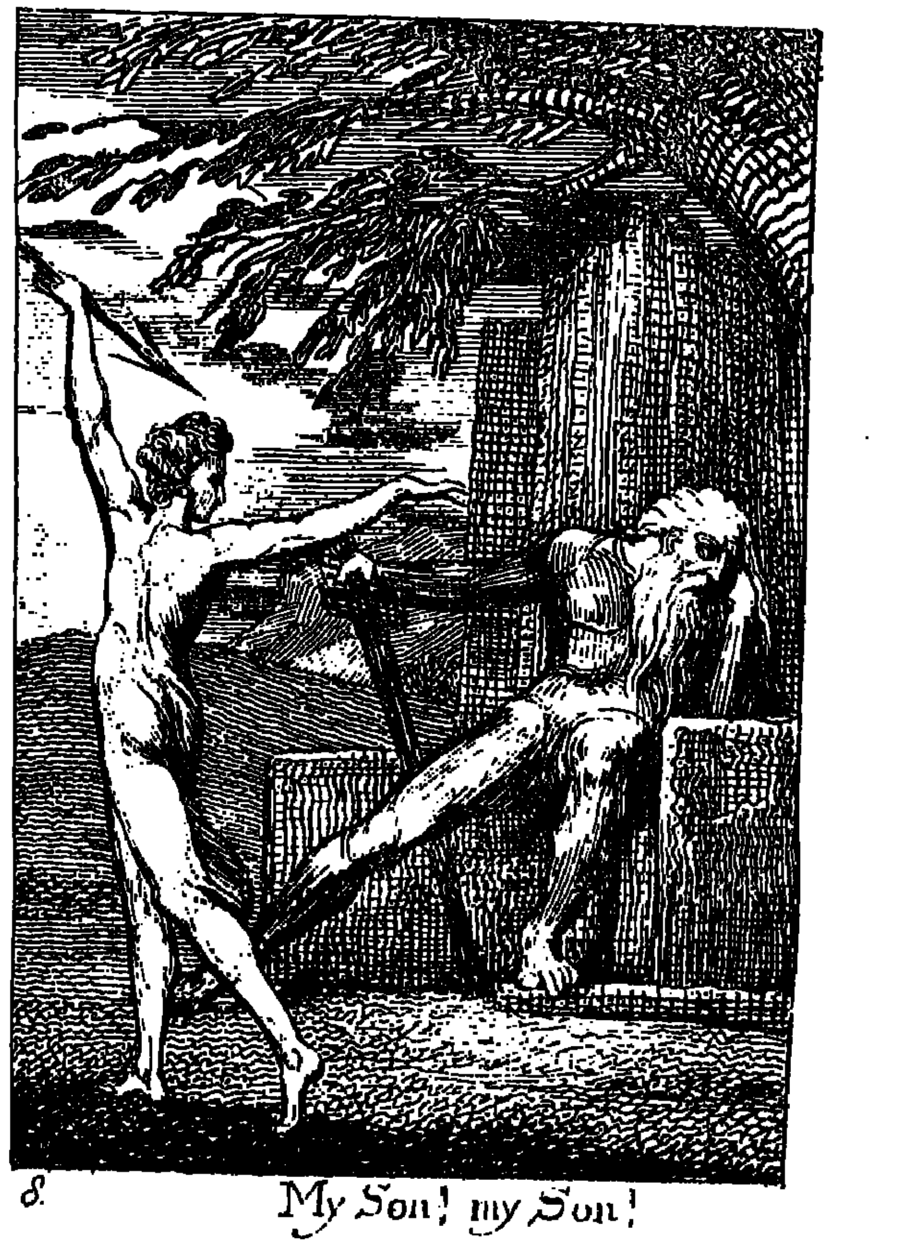
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T·L·S
THE TIMES
LITERARY SUPPLEMENT
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The processes of William Blake



The engraved version of "My Son! my Son!" from The Gates of Paradise *(referred to in the text below).*

ALLY, the critic of Blake should have two quite different modes of approach: a fast, ng reaction and a slow, patient . He must feel the immediacy of e's vision on his pulses, yet also prepared for a long process of ght and understanding in which ries to weigh the cumulative ents of Blake's verbal and l structures in all their intricacy and process. Neither approach e allowed absolute precedence, ever. It is wrong to trust one's diate response totally, since was not a man who wrote a wide audience directly in . Patient interpretation of the , equally, may end in no more the creation of a massive matism from which the poet self has somehow been excluded.

aced with this kind of task it is pting to take a direct line: to ect into Blake a set of opinions h can be seen to fit some area is work and then view everything else against them. G. R. Sabrizi's *The "Heaven" and "Hell" of William Blake* is a good example of approach in one of its cruder s. Having noticed Blake's ness of social problems and nation at social injustices, he into him a strong Marxist ude, which he then expounds in ng account of *The Marriage of ven and Hell*.

rther assumptions follow. It long been seen that the writing this book involved, among other gs, a satire on the doctrines of denborg, whose *Heaven and Hell* Blake knew, and whose attis he had by then come to rust; the "Memorable Fancies" lake's book clearly echo Swedrg's "Memorable Relations", example. No one has previously sted that the book was ed at his predecessor's social osophy, however. Swedenborg for many years an Assessor of es who carried out his duties ientiously and fairly. It is true he showed little regard for inequalities—even going so s to suggest that those rich le who reached Heaven would more splendidly there than the since their goodness on earth necessarily have involved ing a good use of their riches his primary concern was always the kind of living that was ssary if anyone, rich or poor, to get there at all. In Mr Sabrizi's reading this is transformed straightforward class-hatred: Swedenborg praised Heaven was expressing his solidarity the capitalists and when he ibed the denizens of Hell he was really expressing his contempt for the workers whom he had come across in the coalmines he inspected. This is then compounded into further absurdity by the assumption that Blake himself read *Heaven and Hell* in the same way and wrote his *Marriage* specifically as a reply to Swedenborg's supposed class-hatred—so that when, for example, he wrote "Rintrah roars and shakes his fires in the burdened air" he was referring to the air in the Swedish coalmines which Swedenborg had inspected.

This kind of reasoning is found throughout the study. "The cut worm forgives the plough", we are told, because it knows that it has been an exploiter and a social parasite (a view to which the average earthworm might well take exception). Obscurities in the later writings are explained on the convenient and sweeping hypothesis that they result purely from Blake's victimization by society. As a result, Mr Sabri-Tabrizi feels no obligation to read the later books with attention—even to the sex of Blake's mythological personages: Theotormon, Blake's ineffective and doubting male, is described as "the mother of nourishment and energy"; Vala, his female figure of delusive vision, becomes "the natural man who wanders in the dark land of his selfish interest"; and Enion, the female figure who hungers and craves for a lost unity and sings Blake's greatest song of Experience, is turned into a passive male who "listens to the voice of social discontent . . . while weeping for his own fate".

The one good point advanced in the book—that Blake's language in the *Marriage* carries even more links with Swedenborg's in *Heaven and Hell* than has commonly been supposed—is swamped by the crudity of its context and the failure to acknowledge that although Blake eventually came to criticize Swedenborg he learnt a great deal in the process—including his habit of looking for interpretative correspondences between man and nature.

At first sight, *Blake's Night* looks a better book—indeed, David Wagenknecht's subtlety of argument and general expertise might convince us that we are reading a valuable study. It is rather like watching a capable pilot handling his instruments with calmness and skill: only when one looks out of the window to see airfield after airfield switching off its lights at the aircraft's approach does an uneasy feeling intrude, prompting questions about the instructions under which the flight is being undertaken.

In this case the questioning need not last very long, for the author has provided his own calendar of progressive self-misguidance. Mr Wagenknecht began, he tells us, with the notion that

> Blake was an English epic poet, and must have felt bound therefore to consider himself in relationship to the English tradition of epic, that is, to Spenser and Milton. From there it was a short step to considering Blake in terms of the Virgilian idea of a poetic career: to learn one's craft writing pastorals (a naive notion which is itself part of the pastoral fiction) before moving on to higher song.

There is something delightfully cool about the way in which we are invited not only to move from one unfounded assumption to another but also, on the way, to convict Blake himself of naivety for having followed the course thus imposed. Once programmed in this unpromising mode, moreover, the study grinds on with inexorable blandness through thick and thin, making ingenious interpretations of Blakean lyrics fit tortured readings of Spenser's *Shepheard's Calendar*, or vice versa, until one cries aloud for some recognition that Blake was not an academic poet, majoring in pastoral, but a man with urgent and pressing things to say to his generation.

The process is occasionally relieved, it is true, by moments of wild and inexplicable jocularity, as when Mr Wagenknecht remarks of Spenser's "March", "We seem to be in a kind of Beatrix Potter world, for the only girl mentioned is named Lettice . . .", or fits of engaging lunacy, as when he spends several pages trying to interpret the second plate of "The Little Girl Found" in terms of Edgar Wind's discussion of the Three Graces. More often, however, the ingenuity is merely tiresome, as with the commentary on the lines (in "To the Evening Star"): "scatter thy silver dew/ On every flower that shuts its sweet eyes/ In timely sleep". Mr Wagenknecht discovers here a "nursery suggestion" that "little flowers that will *not* shut their eyes in timely sleep must pay the consequences", goes on to infer that the flowers must therefore "have an independent power over their own destinies", and finally relates the word "timely" to Spenser's preoccupation with time. This kind of misapplied ingenuity is a feature of the whole study—which is a pity, since Blake's relationship with Spenser and the pastoral tradition is a topic which needs more investigation. Only once does Mr Wagenknecht make the heart beat faster, when he insists, in commenting on certain previous critics, that Blake's relationship to previous tradition was essentially one of "transformation". Had he allowed his own book to be visited more often by this insight it might have been a better one. As it is the reader is better advised to dwell on and think about the quotations than to read the enswathing text.

If the critic's determination to see Blake as a rhetorician has here blinded him to urgent attempts at communication in the poetry itself, we ought not to underestimate the difficulties involved, which of course proliferate in the later prophetic books. The collection of essays edited by Stuart Curran and Joseph Anthony Wittreich is devoted entirely to *Vala, or The Four Zoas, Milton* and *Jerusalem*, where the aspiring interpreter, confronted immediately by what seems an entire mythological system, must pick his way with especial care. In a good opening essay Jerome J. McGann makes a suggestion which is echoed by several other contributors: that we may be violating Blake's poetry if we encourage "in ourselves or others, an analytic or systematic approach to it". He quotes approvingly A. D. Hope's remark: "The poem is always under the critic's microscope, and he seems never to reflect that while he is testing the poem the poem may in fact be testing him." Blake, he argues, was not, like most poets, trying to set up a personal communication on agreed terms with his reader; on the contrary:

> The poem seems hermetically sealed, and for this reason makes a special demand on those of us who desire it to establish communication. The poem, in fact, requires its meaning from the reader, the only personality which can experience in vision that for which the poem is the occasion.

These are words which every student of Blake ought to ponder. Yet they are not the whole truth. Poems such as "London" are in no way "hermetically sealed". One may also linger over the article's epigraph from Schlegel: "It is equally fatal to the spirit to have a system and not to have a system. Thus one must come to the decision to contain both." Mr McGann's interpretation of this excellent dictum would seem to be that Blake's systematization was an unfortunate necessity, forced on him by his art, which the reader is free to ignore. But one could draw a different conclusion—that while an author is

not to be exclusively understood in terms of his system he cannot be fully understood without it, either; or the very least it could be maintained that the *processes* by which the author came to develop his system need attention. This certainly seems true of Blake. Disgrammatic genealogies of the mythological personages are neither desirable nor enlightening, perhaps, but some consideration of the way in which, say, Blake's Los changes from the jealous father of the early books to the heroic artificer in *Jerusalem* is necessary if one is to make sense of certain statements in the poetry. The good Blake scholar must give unremitting attention to such discriminations.

From this point of view, the remaining essays in *Blake's Sublime Allegory* are a mixed bag. It is one mark of a good interpreter of Blake that he is provoked to distinguished thought and expression of his own; in this collection the last essay, Karl Kroeber's "Delivering *Jerusalem*" is almost alone in offering such self-recommendation. Several are mediocre, subsisting in a curious Limbo somewhere between Blake's text and the reader, where arid concepts perform a solemn dance. Some others, which still move at a pedestrian level, nevertheless offer interesting approaches to their subject. The skeleton commentary on *Vala* which Mary Lynn Johnson and Brian Wilkie have produced presents the poem as "relevant", in the fashionable sense of the word: replete, that is, with psychological insights and simple homespun wisdom. Terms such as "locker-room virility" and "male chauvinism" abound in a discussion which is a cross between literary interpretation and student counselling. The article is likely to be of most use to the hard-pressed college teacher in search of leads for his Blake seminar; it contains the kind of point which might start an interesting discussion in a class but looks rather dead when reduced to print. One notices how much more illuminating the authors are when tracing parallels with Blake's contemporaries, particularly Shelley: a reader who really wants to come to terms with *Vala* as a whole, rather than use it as an occasion for isolated observations of his own, would be better off studying it alongside *Prometheus Unbound* than reading it as a precursor to nineteenth-century psychological novels. One would not easily guess from this essay that Blake wrote his poem, throughout, in the accents of the sublime.

A similar criticism must be levelled against the companion article on *Vala* by John E. Grant, which is devoted to the illustrations. These illustrations are still little-known and rarely reproduced, many of the erotic ones having been partly erased in the last century. Yet they add a new dimension to our awareness of Blake, for no one reading the text of the poem alone would guess that the accompanying illustrations contain many erotic features. Mr Grant's approach has the great virtue of thoroughness: he looks closely at everything, with a particularly sharp eye for sexual detail. His wide knowledge of Blake's other visual works, also, enables him to make interesting cross-references. From this point of view his piece will be indispensable for anyone working on the designs in future. His defect as an interpreter is that he has not thought enough about Blake's larger themes. Thus, although he deals well and minutely with individual designs, he does not bring out the extraordinary differences of style—the marked differences for example, between the fine and simple draughtsmanship of the designs relating to Urizen, the human and satirical pointedness of the erotic drawings and the pietistic panache of the *Night Thoughts* engravings (some of which Blake introduced as an integral component into this series). Often Blake places an erotic design on one page with a *Night Thoughts* design facing it in a way which suggests that he is deliberately juxtaposing esoteric and exoteric treatments of his current theme. Mr Grant's unilinear approach flattens these contours; nor does he seem to notice that a few of the full-page pencil designs are cast directly in an idiom of the sublime which raises the spectator momentarily above the contentions between reason and diverted desire that provide the substance of the narrative. His failure to raise himself to the level of Blake's full vision, which sees the activities of a limiting reason as disastrously narrowing to human perception and seeks by exalting the energies displayed in enacted desire to supersede the obsessive sexual preoccupations of his society, is not only centrally disabling but sometimes leads towards triviality, as when (following a previous editor) he describes a figure of Christ with arms upstretched as "the traffic-stopping Christ" or urges the reader to study the later designs of *Vala* before approaching the erotic ones and so "earn his delectation" of the latter. (There is also a certain grammatical insensitivity, betrayed by his ability to adapt Blake's "Thou treatest me" as "I teacheest thee".) The only explanation that he can finally offer of the erotic themes—as marking a recognition on Blake's part that "the pursuit of natural happiness tends to lead insensibly to the unnatural"—makes one want to remove him from his desk and magnifying-glass and take him up a mountain. Mr Grant has given us the emmet's inch but not the eagle's mile.

One turns with some relief from such blinkered accuracies to an essay like Irene Tayler's "Say, what first moved Blake?" which contains the redemptive presence of a new idea (that Blake's vision of a young girl at the end of *Milton* may have been prompted by his work on the *Comus* designs), or to Michael Phillips's essay on *Poetical Sketches* in *William Blake*, the volume presented to Sir Geoffrey Keynes. The great virtue of Mr Phillips's approach is that he accepts the challenge of Blake's sublimity. From the first, he argues, Blake was determined to raise English poetry to an altogether different plane, and the early poems need to be read in the light of this aspiration. The primary influences which should be traced from Spenser and Milton, he maintains, are influences from a Blakean stance. The whole series ends on a note of annunciation and promise, with the arrival of an angel from the fields of light and the sublime strong man, Samson, about to be conceived—though a desperate irony is also lurking, for the account is being heard from Samson himself and we know that in a moment's time he will betray the secret of his strength to Delilah.

Among Keynes's many services to Blake studies, his sense of proportion must rank high: over the years he has managed to preserve a hard-headed commonsense and an eye for the essential without ever forgetting that he is dealing with a genius. Something of the same spirit runs through this new volume in his honour, which has the further advantage of being produced to the same high standards as his own *Blake Studies*. As with the Curran/Wittreich collection the level of discussion varies, but here the range is wider and a larger number of the contributions add directly to knowledge. In recent years, for example, it has become increasingly clear to students of Blake that a definitive account of any particular illuminated book cannot be given unless one has examined all the available copies, for Blake sometimes introduced interesting variations when he printed a new copy. In a long and minute investigation David Erdman discusses the illustrations to *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*, including some variants of this kind. Other studies explore such themes as Blake's varying portrayals of Christ, his repeated depiction of a despairing figure with head on knees and his early use of "Gothic" motifs. Morton Paley gives an engaging account of the contemporary "prophets", Richard Brothers and Joanna Southcott, thus facilitating contrasts and comparisons with Blake's prophetic role. One virtue of such articles is that they focus attention on his development and process, a matter approached also in another essay discussing certain themes which Blake shares with Coleridge and Wordsworth—parallels which may, it is argued, have a common origin in the subterranean intellectual ferment of the early 1790s, where liberal social themes, new scientific discoveries and mystical speculations flourished side by side.

Further information about the processes of Blake's art is furnished by David Erdman's new edition and facsimile of his *Notebook*—another fine offering from the Clarendon Press. The manuscript, which was first reproduced by Keynes in 1935, here receives even more comprehensive annotation and description. Apart from the *Vala* manuscript it is almost the only [illegible] ment where we can actually at work as correcting, rewriting and so answer some questions about his composition. The various which are indicated Oxford text may help process, as he not particular lines, but the order of stanzas poems. There is nothing unblotting genius here fascinating to see over various designs proposing various pro ments of them and or five different re and prunings, choosing make up that sequence entitled *The* ...*adise*. Here again Blake did not come by readily and simply therefore led to ask designs may not have ...nificance. We look, for page 34, the design labelled "My son which later carried gloss:

My Son ! My Son ! thee
But as I have instructed

Erdman assigns this
primary source in Il Sa...
the story of David's
Absalom (misprinted
incidentally, as if Sa...
Absalom); Keynes
tioned Sin's speech in *Paradise Lost* II, 7...
need not stop here,
graved version (see the
on the previous page)
man aiming a dart at
father—which remains
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Unsupported thoughts in motion

MALCOLM BOWIE:
Henri Michaux
A Study of His Literary Works
212pp. Clarendon Press: Oxford University Press. £5.

HENRI MICHAUX:
Moments
Traversées du temps
130pp. Paris: Gallimard. 25 fr.

Of all poetic explorers of "l'espace du dedans", Henri Michaux must rank as one of the most garrulous and restless. In grappling with a poetry of such aggressive subjectivism and prolix yet unstable inventiveness, Malcolm Bowie must have experienced many moments of exasperation and frustration, as he hints in his closing pages. Yet his book, the first full-length survey of Michaux's poetry in English, is clearly the work of a critic who has disciplined himself to be, as it were, not only a geographer but also a seismographer, capable of registering the subtlest tremors that cross this poetic world.

Michaux's is a work of existential as well as aesthetic significance, and while Mr Bowie elects to pursue the printed poem, rather than examine the creative act *per se* in terms of the private psychological benefits Michaux derives from writing, he nonetheless faces the enormous critical problem of communicating a sense of living processes rather than of static products. In this he has succeeded remarkably, attending to the distinctive texture of selected poems in summaries and comment which show a talent for deft formulation, and give an authentic feeling of what it is like to move inside the poems of Michaux and submit to their vehement, numbing pulsation. To have accurately pinpointed the treacherous contours of this singularly unconstrained work, while convincing us of Michaux's lucid purposefulness, is no mean achievement.

Admittedly it takes Mr Bowie a good while to work up a proper pace, for the opening chapters, dealing with the function of poetry-making for Michaux (despite interesting remarks on Michaux's programme for accommodating states of estrangement and hypersensitivity through the establishment of "existential fictions" and the construction of a "prose with which to escape from purposive behaviour") offer a rather fragmented collection of gnomic headings-for-discussion in lieu of an unfolding argument. Full critical engagement at the highest level occurs later, with the discussion of the major poems of the "mental field", "le champ de ma conscience".

In his sensitive handling of such disruptive texts as "L'Espace aux ombres", Mr Bowie demonstrates Michaux's characteristic transition from the allegorical description of "mental properties" (*Mes propriétés* represent the psychic estates of which the poet is manager) to the half-blind scannings of a field of consciousness that becomes progressively more indeterminate. Mr Bowie plots the patterns that arise and lapse ceaselessly in the poetry, reuilzing the paradoxical feat of giving us a precise model of what is in fact an amorphous, fluid activity.

The best chapters deal with three long poems which, though dating back several years, are now collected in Michaux's new volume, *Moments*. Mr Bowie's analysis of the turbulent mescalin poem, "Paix dans les brisements", gives an exciting account of muscular energies which press towards a rare apotheosis whereby the scattered images and enigmas of consciousness fuse into a transcendent "fluvial ecstasy", "la merveilleusement simple inarrêtable ascension", —the sense of uplift and vibrant growth was emphasized in the original 1959 version by a parallel sequence of Michaux's own febrile drawings.

The poem "Iniji", which Mr Bowie describes as a "world of evaporating meanings" is an experiment in magical association and verbal encounter, with invented nonsense words and actual words that, bereft of sustaining context, seem to ooze along in undirected blobs of sound.

Si tu vas Nje
Nja va da
Si tu ne ujas
ujara ru pas

Remorques
qui le remorquent
qu'elle remorque

Où retourner ?
La coeur de la chambre est parti

It is easy to get lost in poetry whose virtue, as Mr Bowie suggests, is ultimately "musical" — having its organizing principle in the non-discursive deployment of its parts—and Mr Bowie begins to sound merely fanciful when he argues that Iniji (who seems to be some sort of Oriental goddess) represents the poet's female persona, embodying at once the self who witnesses the evaporation of meaning and a phantom self "united with everything it meets in a single, but interrupted, melodic line".

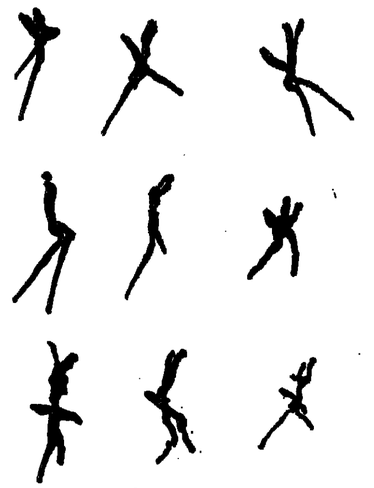
Mr Bowie's analysis of the third long poem, "Vers la complétude", describes it as a bravura compendium of abstract and disparate bits, a "pageant of differences" which is finally seen to run into an unbroken, non-differentiated continuum. This seems typical of Michaux's present endeavours: he is trying to impart reality to the diligently abstracted paraphernalia of consciousness all the while coaxing this material towards a tenuous unity, creating a poetry that is at once multifarious and identical in all its motions and parts, having the qualities embodied in the image of the wave, which Mr Bowie defines as "embracing continuity and alternation, repetition and interruption". In *Moments*, Michaux underlines the theme of the wave in a typically monotonous yet compelling manner:

> Flux, flux sans fin repoussant les restrictions, les délinitations, plénitant, plénifiant. . . . Sur ondes propositions, ondes de moi, ondes de soi, ondes voyageant sur les ondes.

The recent poems continue to reflect Michaux's preoccupation with poetic language as an immaterial instrument for harnessing psychic energy. The last poem of *Moments*, "Yantra", is a short treatise on "cosmic" consciousness that seems deliberately to allude to Buddhistic processes of mental purification:

> Elimine l'actuel, l'accidentel
> la poussière de l'existentiel
> éliminé l'attachement

If this is evidence of an ultimate aim of eliminating from consciousness all trace of existence and individual experience, then Mr Bowie's central contention is confirmed that Michaux's poetry is a progression towards "pure mental efficacy" whereby things and images of things give way to greater and greater abstraction. At this point it might not seem inappropriate to turn from "Yantra" to the *Diamond Sutra*, in which the seeker after truth is urged to give his mind up to "a thought unsupported by sights, sounds, smells, tastes, touchables, or mind-objects". All the same, the overall evidence of Mr Bowie's book is such that one imagines that even if Michaux reaches any such state of pure consciousness, he will be reluctant to dwell there: the impulse to "move on" is what has always given his work its characteristic dynamism and incompleteness.



"Mouvements"—Indian ink drawings by Michaux.

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The spoutings of a sculler

JOHN TAYLOR :

All the Workes of John Taylor the Water-Poet

637pp. Scolar Press. £14.50.

John Taylor, the Water Poet, was a man of quite exceptional talent. He sold himself tirelessly and very successfully on a still unorganized market. The vast volume of his complete works cannot easily be matched in the ephemeral, sub-literary world of pamphleteering. Nowadays he would be a columnist in a popular newspaper. Anyone who wants to know what the ordinary man in the early seventeenth century felt about things, or thought he ought to feel about things, what touched, enraged or amused him, will find it here, down to the little black mongrel, faithfully attending his master on the battlefields of Flanders, who is immortalized under the charming title of *A Dogge of War*.

The name Taylor wished to be known by, and has effectively kept, is part of his self-promotion. By trade a waterman, he was also a poet, though sometimes he says

my versing Muse craves some repose
And whilst she sleeps Ile spout a little prose.

"Spout" is a fair description of what Taylor does. His total score of works was far in excess of the sixty-three he collected, with an engraved title-page of sails, oars and dolphins, in 1630. His usual metre was a rhymed couplet, but he had others at his command. He probably sincerely thought of himself as a poet when he spoke disdainfully of a rival as a rhymer. If he deserves the higher title it is for his technical efficiency. He never fumbles.

Taylor had great skill in words and gloried in it, devising ingenious anagrams on patrons' names, composing gibberish "in the Utopian tongue", "in the Bermuda tongue", alliterating, punning, dazzling his reader with technical terms, and constructing endless lists, to the point where they become a vice. They go up like a house of cards, always another to be added to the tottering pile of what may be a catalogue of the names of birds, ships' tackling, apothecaries' drugs, gemstones, pet-names for sweethearts. Diseases of horses he finds irresistibly funny. Lists are easy, not only for the writer but for readers unaccustomed to expending much concentration on the written word. Taylor's pamphlets tempt the stall-reader to flick the pages and buy. The typography is designed for the purpose, as this Scolar facsimile shows. Titles are provocative, dedications extravagant.

Not that Taylor fawned on patrons. His dedications are often an elaborate joke. His second trade preserved an honest independence which mattered more to him than any *vie de bohème*:

Ile take an Oare in hand when writing failes.
And twixt the Boat and Pen, I make no doubt
But I shall shift to picke a living out.

There were poor returns for Thames watermen after the theatres moved into town from the South Bank and London's night-life with them. Taylor devotes a pamphlet to their case. In another, *The World Goes on Wheels*, he inveighs against "hyred Hackney hell-Carts". The rising standard of living, with its attendant selfishness and waste, is always good for a diatribe, generally spiced with wit and humour: "I haue imbrodered it with mirth, quilted it with materiall stuffe, lac'd it with similitudes; Sowed it with comparisons, and, in a word, so play'd the Taylor with it, that I thinke it will fit the wearing of any honest man's Reading, Attention and liking." Whores, bawds, cuckolds and thieves are obvious targets for mirth and moral indignation mixed. Discharged soldiers and the unemployed are to be pitied. The rich are censured if they neglect the poor, but not if, like Sir George Bruce, they maintain coal-mines where "many poore people are set on work which otherwise through the want of implyoyment would perish".

Royalty is above criticism, and a pamphlet dedicated to James I, *Against Cursing and Swearing*, is no joke. Contemporary naval engagements are celebrated seriously. The distressed citizens of Salisbury are advised to improve trade by clearing their river. The country folk near London are convicted of inhumanity in shunning refugees from the plague. Trips abroad are enlivened by attacks on Roman Catholics and horror at the Continental Sunday. They also yield accounts of bloody executions, but Taylor does not often tap a sadistic vein. He reports only one murder. Protestant piety is buttressed by versified Bible stories. There is no sly obscenity but a robust coarseness.

Taylor displays no very great subtlety nor much independent thinking, though there may be some independent reporting. He keeps the middle of the road, offending as few of his readers as may be and comforting many. To be so supremely unpolitical in 1630 must have been quite a feat. He is a poor hand at satire, and can wonder what the world is coming to without counselling despair. Good humour and thanks for kindnesses received are what make his accounts of his own adventures so agreeable. He devised a means of promoting his books by undertaking much-publicized journeys, such as *A Very Merry-Wherry-Ferry Voyage*, from London to York by water, and *The Pennilesse Pilgrimage*, a journey to Scotland on which he was pledged to take no money, accept no money, and ask for nothing.

The Scottish journey was sponsored at the outset, and was contrived by a network of friends and a sensitive bush-telegraph, together with what must have been a strong sense of showmanship and a winning personality. Offers of money are sedulously refused. Good cheer is described in mouth-watering terms. At Manchester he was offered eight different kinds of ale at one time, and lists them. When he failed to find unsolicited accommodation he made the best of it:

In heauen's Star-Chamber I did lodge that night,
Ten thousand Starres, me to my bed did light;
There baracadoed with a bancke lay wee
Below the lofty branches of a tree.
There my bed-fellowes and companions were,
My Man, my Horse, a Bull, foure Cowes, two Steer;
Thus Nature, like an ancient free Vpholster,
Did furnish vs, with bedstead, bed and bolster:
And the kind skies, (for which high heau'n be thanked),
Allow'd vs a large Couering and a Blanket.

The kindness of friends and strangers and the qualities of the towns he visited are highly extolled, and the few curmudgeons are pilloried by name, regardless of any law of libel. The 350 [...] failed to pay up on the [...] of the journey had a [...] themselves, *A Kicksey W[...] A Lerry Come-Twang*.

The journeys by water [...] quite so happy. The rowing [...] and so was the weather. [...] the party were mistaken [...] by four over-zealous "[...] constables". At York, [...] meant to make a ceremon[...] tation of his battered bo[...] mayor. "For why", he [...] a footnote, "should not [...] as good a monument, as T[...] euerlasting ouertramp[...] were?" The mayor, [...] fused to play his part. [...] should have told Taylor [...] shiremen. But as an old [...] was a veteran of Cadiz [...] Islands Voyage), he was [...] home in Hull, and inge[...] plained that the grim pro[...] Hell, Hull and Halifax rel[...] the town of Kingston-upo[...] to the navigational haz[...] river. His experiences in [...] *A Discouery by Sea from [...] Salisbury*, provoke anoth[...] teristic footnote. The text [...]

There were we saws'd and [...] wash'd and [...]
And grauell'd that it made [...]

The accompanying note [...] were fiue men, and two [...] afraid, two were not afraid, [...] halfe afraid." Is the comi[...] perhaps an invention of [...] was not above advising [...] the *Dunciad*: "See the [...] Works of Eusden—if foun[...]"

Taylor is not otherwise [...] writer, though he prides [...] being no plagiarist. He [...] elais and was not unaw[...] debt to Nashe. He insists [...] but frequently introduc[...] phrase about being a [...] scholar. Part of his succe[...] a large ease in the area [...] to occupy, from which he [...] to scramble to higher [...] counted King James his [...] Ben Jonson his frie[...] was surely enough. [...] pered, honest, unmalic[...] an innocent sense of [...] a taste for drink [...] for drunkenness, and a [...] genious wordplay, he [...] in any company. We can [...] mastery of what in his [...] new medium, respect him [...] man in words, grant with [...] poraries that he was som[...] prodigy; and more than [...] get from him an outlook [...] seventeenth century which, [...] being elevated, is uncom[...] Linguists and students of [...] have here a small gold[...] will have to find out for [...] the dates at which the [...] pamphlets were published [...] regret that there is no [...] pagination. V. E. Neuburg [...] a concise introduction [...] calls "one of England's [...] selling authors".

Christina Rossetti Visits North-East

The brand-new mid-Victorian conservatory
of Newcastle upon Tyne's grand Central Station.
Prince of Wales plumes of steam and soot
feather like palms its curving domes of glass.

Crammed with crinolines and stove-pipe hats,
John Dobson's massive portico, Italianate,
poses blond arches in trousers of stone.
The cabs leave steaming dumps of golden dung.

The crossing-sweeper tips his cap
to a profile drifting in summer veils:
peeping from a smooth dark snood of hair,
Pre-Raphaelite features of a sulky angel.

*

Parting after parting is her theme: parting
from girlhood, God and William Bell Scott
the Whitman fan, who has a way with women, but
not with her—would that he had, she prayed.

He hands her into the first-class carriage
where she leans, as if exhausted, but poem-plotting,
against the dark-blue buttoned velvet.
The slammed door stuns a heart

once like a singing bird—but after
that sunny picnic on Roker Sands, something
will make her keep it caged, though singing still,
in sombre, lustrous eyes, hooded like Dante's.

*

A top-hatted station-master's consumptive whistle
trills, the train jerks out a tear. A first line's
necklace of words collects its couplings.
The locomotive takes her by the dove-gloved hands.

JAMES KIRKUP

Breaking up

ANNE SEXTON :

The Book of Folly

64pp. Chatto and Windus. £1.25.

STUART MONTGOMERY :

Shabby Sunshine

47pp. Fulcrum Press. £1.50.

Like her previous work, Anne Sexton's new poems are stark, slow-moving pieces which combine terse statement with forceful metaphor, sacrificing syntactical flow and complexity to the stabbing power of sharply delineated images. What makes this volume distinctive is the tension between that stringent control and a Plath-like sense of sickening vacuity at the core of things. The poems return obsessionally to images of physical disintegration and devouring, casting them in a toneless, laconic style which weirdly intensifies their force:

I will take an iron and press out
my slipped disc until it is flat.
But take away my mother's carcinoma
for I have only one cup of fetus tears.
Take away my father's cerebral hemorrhage
for I have only a jigger of blood in my hand.

A sense of twisted, disrupted relations between parent and child is, again like Sylvia Plath, close to the book's heart, a primary source of its emotional energy; and this relates to the fears of being devouring and of being devoured. The occasional poem is too blatantly derivative of Plath's work, aping both her tone and metaphorical mode:

... the childbeater is out
eating soil and drinking bullets from a cup.
He strides back and forth
in front of my study window
chewing little red pieces of my heart.
His eyes flash like a birthday cake
and he makes bread out of rock.

Yet the volume finds its own voice in a sequence entitled "The Jesus Papers", which concludes it; for here the braced, poised, sometimes ritualistic posture of earlier poems is relaxed just enough to allow a colloquial, faintly sardoni[...] come through.

Stuart Montgomery's p[...] unpunctuated, unpretend[...] shot through with a Rom[...] of the passing of things, [...] an economy about the[...] which makes for some [...] cate effects but also fo[...] complex development. At [...] they slacken into timeless [...]

a man knows best
when he works closest
to the abundant earth
knows least
when he feasts
without ploughing

—but most of the pieces [...] enough achieved, focusing [...] moment or gesture and [...] catching it in its frail [...] stability within the sph[...] of nature. The drawback [...] technique is that it produ[...] which are neat enough b[...] ably slight; the poems [...] inhabit an eternal prese[...] no perspectives or con[...] possible, no distancing [...] ing of the object. Medi[...] But too little human co[...]

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—ANGUS WILSON, OBSERVER
hh Hamish Hamilton

Bearing up

[RICH]ARD B. WRIGHT :

[Th]e Middle of a Life

[...]p. Macmillan. £2.95.

Richard Wright's second novel [...] in the over-written territory [...] male menopause. Freddy Lau[...] is middle-aged and worse: a [...] writer, a failed husband, and we find him out of work, having [...] also to hold his own in the rat-[race] of salesmanship. So he sallies [...] from his lonely pad in an un-[...] quarter of Toronto, undergoes [an]other interview, sees the hope-[less n]ature of the job, but is none the [...] glad to get it.

[Fr]eddy is at a turning-point, a time [of] adjustment to his past: before [tak]ing on this job he goes off to the [...] of his origins, visits his crabby father in a nursing-home, re-[estab]lishes contact with his long-lost [...] and daughter, worries about the [la]tter's company and conduct, [t]ries to cope when she and her [...] boyfriend get arrested on a [...]ics charge. But all things sort themselves out, for the time being at least; and by way of pointing to hope and a future, Freddy's schoolmarmy but comforting mistress declares herself pregnant. They will get married now, and despite the horror of that job, life will start up again: in the closing sentence there is even a faint suggestion that Freddy will turn to his new bride's church. He is at that turning-point in life at which he perceives, with astonishment, that the cancers and coronaries are beginning to attack his contemporaries, instead of just that distinct and alien species, the old.

In hands less sure than Mr Wright's—and that means most hands—all this would be the last word in threadbare boredom; and any attempt to say why it does not work out like that will lead to cliché. What are we to say? Tragi-comedy? Smiling bravely through our tears? The human condition? The human *predicament*?

The crude unanalysable fact is that Mr Wright has a top-quality eye, mind and sensibility, as was made clear in his first and not dissimilar novel, *The Weekend Man*. He is indeed talking about the human predicament, in this middle-aged, unsuccessful, and timid version; and an enemy might say that he dawdles, has no real story to tell, wastes our time with long flashbacks which only scrutinize the complexity of life and the sad flavour of memory. He would certainly be one of the worst possible models for an aspiring novelist of limited talent; and he offers tiresomely small scope to the coruscating critic, since there aren't many clever things to be said about him.

He is just there to be relished. All the clichés come to life again: irony, pathos, compassion, "the awfulness of life, the brute facts of living, the terrible day-to-day griefs which must be borne", a steady quality of love and humour, all sustained by a wealth of narrative invention. The moral is that for many kinds of novel-writing, the mere quality of the author's mind can be decisive, which is why it is difficult to reply candidly to the unsuccessful novelist who asks to have his failure explained to him.

[S]trictly for the bards

[PENE]LOPE SHUTTLE :

[Wai]ling Monkey Embracing a Tree

[...]p. Calder and Boyars. £2.25.

[Blurr]ing the distinctions between [poetr]y and prose, Penelope Shuttle's [...]ous and exciting talent still [...] too strongly in arcana. There [are] many beautiful, fresh and [sil]ent passages in her new [...]", but her frequent examples [of ...]dic overflow may be nothing [more] than the contemporary version [of th]e pastel rhapsodizing once [associ]ated with the *poème en prose*. [Whe]ther this is a sign of excessive [...] in her methods, or a sign of [...]g too heroic a faith in exotica [dredg]ed out of the sub-conscious (or [T]hesaurus), it is probably too [...]o tell.

[...] the reader's imagination is [...] to be shocked without being [...]ed. But images and phrases do not entirely suffocate the story, while the uncommon poetic speech in which the narrator and the conjugal protagonists themselves present their meditative perceptions and reveries has the effect of mythologizing that familiar theme in contemporary fiction, a stale marriage. Longings for other lovers, for death, reliefs, escapes, that "miraculous future" Elinda dreams about, are transformed into a profoundly fictive zone of understanding. Extreme emotional situations probably encourage this; and yet there is some truth in the accusation that an unbalanced contrast between fantasy and actuality does, in a word, reveal only an exaggeration. In this case, the book might claim that there is a more exotic despair in domestic turmoil than may in fact be the case.

Working within its ardent and exacting mode, Miss Shuttle's linguistic concentration inevitably produces the feeling that the story she tells is more important for the poetry it elicits than for its social strangeness and significance. Yet she is dealing with common unhappiness, with trapped femininity and trapped masculinity, with breakdowns and hysteria. Such an emphasis is in fiction as much a contrivance as any other, the promulgation of a poetic view of life an insult to the ordinary. Fantasy and surrealistic recall, the enemies of Elinda and the symptoms of the errors in her temperament, are the friend and style of the writer, Miss Shuttle. A writer's stylistic or spiritual beliefs are as authoritarian as the "authoritarian concept of love" in which Luke and Elinda are caught. One accepts that; one accepts even the hermetic, if not always obscurantist, limitations of an imaginative work as poetic as this one very often is, despite the fact that its anger and ideology seem preserved in itself, as much as Elinda's body is said to be preserved in her mirrors.

[D]isorient express

[...]L INGALLS :

[The M]an Who Was Left Behind

[...] Faber and Faber. £2.50.

[O]f the three stories that make [u]p this excellent book—the work of [an au]thor who is as sensitive as she [is acc]omplished—deals in a different [way] with the fact of human vulner-[abilit]y, the isolation and desolation [from] which most of us are protected [onl]y by a few fragile relationships. [If] one of these is destroyed, the [...]e balance of sanity as well as [...]ry well-being is irrevocably [...]. This is, however, an over-[simpl]ification of the material which [Miss] Ingalls handles with the most [te]chnical assurance. Too often [the ...]olade of "economy" is be-[stowed] on writers whose prose is [merely] arid or insubstantial: this [writer] possesses the genuine gift—[she ass]embles and places words with [a pre]cision that enables her to [...] her effects with the mini-[mum of f]uss, so that each story finds [and m]aintains its own pace.

[The] title story concerns an elderly [man w]ho, after an appalling family [...]y, becomes a sad, disorientated [...] in the North American town [where] he was once a respected and [...]cial citizen. The other two [...]are both set on the island of [...] and are about precarious [...]es, but they are very dif-[ferent i]n content and approach. It [would] be no service at all to reveal [...]f the plots: suffice it to say [that ea]ch ends with a moving, per-[haps m]ildly surprising, climax that [is] a climax and no mere twist. [Miss] Ingalls sets up a scene with [...]d speed whether it is a cold [...]rn town, a Mexican landscape [or a f]reak village. Brief images—such as the wonder and disillusion of a child who thinks he can *see* atoms, only to be told that they are the reflection of cells on the retina—are aptly and imaginatively realized. Her characterization is admirable, with central figures as well as with the supporting cast, and here the author's accurate ear for dialogue helps her significantly.

Most important, perhaps, of her many qualities is Miss Ingalls's ability to establish in remarkably few paragraphs the whole complex background in the lives of her central characters, so that they are as fully rounded and credible as those in most longer novels and the piquancy or poignancy of their immediate circumstances in the stories has all the more impact. A thoroughly admirable achievement.

Pickerninnies

LONNIE COLEMAN :

Beulah Land

596pp. Pan Books. £2.75.

This is one of those sagas of land-owning generations that comes equipped with its own family tree. It features, in this instance, not only births, deaths and marriages, but affairs, and other irregularities; it is laden with maiden aunts, wayward uncles, and loyal retainers. There are feuds, of course, and occasional suicides, an epidemic of yellow fever, and a strain of inherited hysteria, but all in all these little problems can be resolved by sweetness of nature, and time, and diligent attendance at the annual Thanksgiving.

The setting for this great saga is the Deep South. An ante-bellum mansion, and cotton-picking, rockers and muslins, whims and gallantries, an energetically prosperous domestic economy—and slaves. Happy slaves, of course. They and we look after each other. We cope with the money problems, they number a herbalist, a musician, a housekeeper whose word is law, a lifelong, self-denying admirer. In private we teach them to read and write. When we set them free they are wretched because they do not belong to us any more. There is one fly in the ointment, but he's not only Black and White, but Indian too!

Lonnie Coleman everywhere dispenses sunshine and good will, but how little he cares to know, or tell, of the cotton harvest, its labourers, its balance-sheets, its processing, the raw figures of the system that built the wealth that housed his Southern belles. *Beulah Land* harks back, not to the nineteenth century, but to the 1930s, that strange decade when the South began to recover from the blow to its image and set about painting over the cracks. To judge by Mr Coleman's wordiness it is a laborious task, but the results will no doubt give fleeting pleasure to the magnolia-minded.

Death throes

ELIE WIESEL :

Night, Dawn, the Accident

318pp. Robson Books. £3.25.

Three separate "tales" make up this book, their themes being Judaism and death, the whole having a strongly autobiographical flavour. In "Night" the narrator contrives—by a narrow margin—to see death from the outside alone. His community, in a remote Transylvanian village, was an intensely religious one, and he himself was soaked in the Talmud and aspired to the mystic heights of the Cabbala, so that when the Nazis came with their brisk travel-arrangements there was no resistance because (despite first-hand testimony) there was no belief in what they might do. These Jewish eyes had been fixed too singlemindedly upon goodness.

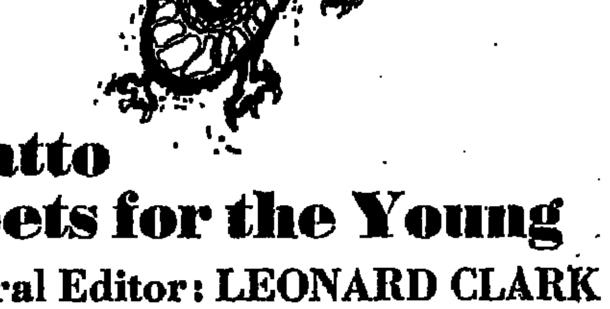
Thereafter, Elie Wiesel is impeded by the impossibility of Auschwitz and Buchenwald as subject-matter: he tries, and profoundly, but the mere facts overshadow any possible portrayal of them, anything that one might hope to say about them. God dies, of course; and in his foreword to this story, François Mauriac offers a gently Christian reminder about what this might mean, suggesting (among other things) that death-of-God theologies are some 1,941 years out of date.

In "Dawn", Judaism has learnt the lesson too well. Secular and fierce, it fights the controlling British for a future in which Israel shall no longer be pushed around: militant for the sake of the old pacifism, the narrator now finds himself chosen to execute a randomly selected British officer, simply as a reprisal, and so he meets death (in one sense) from the inside, as its inflicter, having first established a relationship of mutual love and pity with his victim. This is perhaps the most successful of the three stories.

From death-as-seen and death-as-inflicted, Mr Wiesel moves on in "The Accident" to attempt death-as-experienced, despite the limitations of human reportage: Mauriac might have developed his gentle apologetic in that foreword by saying that if we want to study the real meaning and experience of death, we must find somebody who has been through it and come back to tell the tale. (Not that the silence of the risen Jesus on this point, and indeed that of Lazarus, are less than remarkable among the New Testament's many silences.)

The accident in question, a big smash-up on the slippery streets, takes place in New York, where Mr Wiesel now lives: it takes his narrator to the brink, and allows him to reconsider his past in the context of a decision whether to go on living—a dilemma out of which he is jollied by a tough extrovert, so that the book ends on a slightly false note of briskness.

Night, Dawn and Accident offers, then (as is freely acknowledged), a patched-together presentation of material written many years ago. The poetry of religious Judaism is here, the possibly irresponsible freedom of the word not yet made flesh, and also much relevance to Middle-Eastern psychologies today; but the best thing is a close and profound engagement, in terms both religious and psychological, with the one subject that concerns us even more certainly than taxation


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Natural and artificial laws

DAVID CAMERON :

The Social Thought of Rousseau and Burke

242pp. Weidenfeld and Nicolson. £4.50.

David Cameron's study of Burke and Rousseau starts from a properly suspicious attitude towards our current orthodoxies. Every schoolboy knows—or, at least, every graduate student is expected to know—that Burke and Rousseau were at daggers drawn on every issue of importance. Professor Cameron summarizes the usual view, "to know what Burke's notions are upon any subject is to know with certainty what those of Rousseau are not". Where Burke and Rousseau are conjoined in the orthodox history of ideas, it is in order to demonstrate antagonism, dissimilarity, an irreconcilable opposition of temperament, metaphysical persuasion, moral evaluation and political prescription. Unanimity on this scale is too tempting to be passed over, and Professor Cameron whets our appetite for the controversy to come by allusions to Howard Becker's spectacular feats of iconoclasm in *The Heavenly City of the Eighteenth-Century Philosophers*.

Unfortunately, he does not satisfy the appetite he arouses ; *The Social Thought of Rousseau and Burke* is never less than competent, well-read, carefully and clearly written ; nor are Professor Cameron's judgments silly or poorly defended. However he has not really got enough ideas of his own to sustain the promised controversy ; he does not have the requisite literary skill even to conjure up a possible picture of Rousseau and Burke as unlikely but genuine comrades ; nor does he seem to have the urgent personal desire to use one or other of his subjects for his own purposes which justifies, say, Marshall Berman's *The Politics of Authenticity*.

Given that he is writing a rather short book—only 180 pages of text—Professor Cameron pursues a somewhat misguided strategy by spending the first forty pages on an introduction which is not very much use to the comparisons he does want to make, and which, in invoking Michael Oakeshott, W. H. Greenleaf and John Pocock, only reminds one of how much effort in the history of ideas has been lavished on attempts to distinguish "levels of generality", and on attempts to set up tidy camps into which theorists can be herded for the purpose of comparison. It is harder to see why Professor Cameron pursues this indirect strategy when he says so many sensible things about the limited value of these exercises in classification and stratification.

The crucial questions which all this leads up to are those concerning the beliefs which Rousseau and Burke held about natural law, natural right, and human nature, and those concerning their picture of political life and its impact on the individual citizen. Professor Cameron rightly suggests that neither Burke nor Rousseau fits easily into the textbook accounts of natural law theory ; he accepts that Burke is less a utilitarian than a natural law theorist, in spite of his hostility to the language of natural rights, but he gives only a cautious and qualified welcome to the view that Burke owes allegiance to the "classical"—or Leo Straussian—natural law tradition, for the very good reason that the classical tradition is a lot less visible than its defenders believe. He makes a neat job of squaring Burke's emphasis on the artificiality of society with his belief in a natural law, reminding us of Burke's claim that art was natural to human beings. And he stresses as he should Burke's claims for the role of society in perfecting our humanity. But, then, as he says, it is not surprising to find Rousseau looking more Burkean than we expected. For Rousseau also stressed the role of social discipline in making us moral creatures ; if Rousseau appeals to nature, he also emphasizes how removed our social nature is from our primitive origins.

But there is still something lacking in this comparison, and something which Professor Cameron never quite brings out. This is, surely, that even when we allow a much more evolutionary strain in Rousseau's thought than before, and when we allow society a decisive educative role, Rousseau is at odds with human history in a way that Burke hardly can be. Rousseauian evolution may have made us human, but it has also made us unhappy—or, to use what Professor Cameron rightly sees as Rousseau's distinctive notion, it is a process of alienation. For all his stress on the alleged origins of English liberties, Burke never seems to suggest that we ought to have stopped English history somewhere in the past ; he never quite suggests that we ought to try to get off the bus now, even if the immediate future is pretty bleak. All sorts of facts about Rousseau and Burke are no doubt relevant to this difference, especially their very different feelings about the extent to which a benevolent God was implicated in day-to-day events.

Again, Professor Cameron rightly stresses that Burke and Rousseau have more in common than most commentators suggest in their picture of what constitutes moral freedom ; but he makes hard work of Rousseau's views, when he could easily have leant on Durkheim's little essay. That is, he sees that Rousseau sometimes seems to say that natural liberty is the state of independence in which humans are just animals, directed by causal law rather than moral law. But moral freedom consists in our obedience to a law which we prescribe to ourselves as free creatures, and which we follow as only rational beings can follow it. The trouble is that Rousseau does not seem to know which freedom is the more "natural" to men ; if it is the latter, then his similarity with Burke is obvious, for he shares with him the view that freedom demands restraint, and that men need to be freed from their baser passions as much as they need to be freed from physical oppression.

The solution offered by Durkheim is surely a persuasive one ; Rousseau's picture of freedom requires us to be independent in the sense of not depending on the will of any other person ; it also requires our actions to be necessary—that is, non-arbitrary. Both the pre-social state and the fully social state meet these requirements, though in very different ways. Had Professor Cameron allowed himself to be seduced by Durkheim's reading of Rousseau, the extent of his subjects' similarities might have been more forcibly put. For Rousseau and Burke emerge, not just as sharing an emphasis on social discipline, but as broaching the terrors of anomie rather than the miseries of alienation. Of course, there is much to be said against this sort of assimilation, too, but it illuminates some late eighteenth-century anxieties as more conventional accounts do not.

Finally, one other near miss in Professor Cameron's account is worth noting. Every so often he alludes to the fact that Burke's major non-political work was a discussion of aesthetics, and to Rousseau's talents as a composer ; he discusses, too, the rhetorical purposes of their work, though only indirectly. Now surely one important problem they both faced was that of deciding what the proper language of politics had to be. The style of political discussion was not, so to speak, extrinsic decoration ; Rousseau's distaste for the theatre, and his reluctant acknowledgment that politics needed rhetoric, contrasts with Burke's subtle and self-conscious use of verbal colour. If the state, or society at large, was more than a contract for mean and temporary purposes, if it was to receive the reverence that was its due, if had to be spoken of appropriately. A state was merely a piece of ... certainly be defended ... revolutionaries by ... that the machinery is ... not to be adjusted ... instrument. But a state ... living organism, and ... mother to us, can ... symbolism of a fair ... sort. Rape and burning ... gether more horrible ... cal cackhandedness, and ... dionary whose hands ... mother's blood is a ... figure than a mechanic ... wrong spanner. ... sean's part in the Fre... tion, he was as powerful ... disorder as Burke himself ... cannot help thinking the ... bodder writer than ... Cameron might have ... of this covert likeness. It ... may be to display an ... titude for a book which ... tainly instruct its readers ... do nothing to mislead them.

The exemplary Che

MICHAEL LOWY :

The Marxism of Che Guevara

Translated by Brian Pearce.

127pp. Monthly Review Press. £2.90.

The popular image of Guevara as "a sort of Red d'Artagnan who saw guerrilla warfare as something like a duel between the Musketeers and the Cardinal's Guards" has always been at odds with the rest of what is popularly known about him—his middle-class intellectual background, his asthma (who ever heard of a wheezing musketeer ?), his rather moralistic appeals on behalf of the socialist "new man" and his death in miserable and unheroic circumstances. Michael Lowy's little book is an attempt to show how Guevara's life and ideas were all of a piece, and how they were informed by a particularly perceptive interpretation of Marxism in Latin American surroundings. It is not exactly a bargain, and the thinness of the story leaves many of the interesting questions unanswered ; but it is a lucid enough introduction to Guevara's ideas, even if its brevity means that M Lowy cannot make good his claim that Guevara's life and ideas exhibit a perfect unity of theory and practice, let alone large strategic claims, such as the rationality of Guevara's attempt to take the heat off North Vietnam by his campaign in Bolivia.

It may be the concentration on Guevara's ideas, or it may be the fact that the French edition of the book was produced in 1970, before Castro's quarrel with most of his Western intellectual friends, but, one way or another, the book's greatest shortcoming is its wholly uncritical attitude to the Cuban Revolution itself. We are told a lot about Guevara's ideas about planning, about the abolition of market incentives, about voluntary labour and so on, but nothing about how this programme struck the masses at whom it was aimed. M Lowy gives the impression that Guevara's views had an enormous and almost wholly beneficial effect, but he does not in fact offer any evidence to show that the gloomier reports are false.

As presented by M Lowy, Guevara's ideas are recognizably part of the corpus of humanist Marxism, opposed to the determinism of Second International Marxism and to the mechanistic Marxism of Stalinist orthodoxy. The most interesting parts of the book are the discussions of Guevara's humanism, and his views on the socialist road to socialism in an underdeveloped country. A key concept in Guevara's humanism—as it was in Marx's—is that of dignity, and he saw that one of the reservoirs of revolutionary energy in Latin America was a popular desire for self-respect at odds with the misery of daily life, to this demand for justice and self-respect, he added the more specifically Marxian concern with alienation. The need to bring our own creations back under our own conscious control, together with the belief that a primary source of alienation is the productive process misunderstood as something subject to blind necessity, was the emphasis which distinguished his Marxist humanism from Rousseauist or liberal humanisms.

In the economic sphere, the arguments between Guevara and his critics were conducted at a level of almost theological abstraction, and M Lowy does not do much to explain what in practice is supposed to follow from the triumph of one side or the other. The disputes were over the obvious problems of a socialist economy, ... need to secure an effi... tion of resources and ... out falling back into ... tions of the free marke... Guevara was naturally ... ways in this debate; ... of workers' self-manage... Yugoslav context was ... appealing than the ... Russian system of manag... the Yugoslav willingness ... prices and levels of ... a competitive free-... wasn't socialism. It is ... M Lowy does little to ... just what sort of objects ... was most concerned ... dency of material ... undermine the new ... or the tendency of a ... accounting system to ... sults at odds with ... notion of what the Cuba... needed.

Uncommitted readers ... that the whole study is ... close to hagiography ... interest to non-Marxist ... reformists or other ... need not be true ; though ... is hagiography, it is ... hagiography in the ... M Lowy calls Guevara ... "exemplary" one, ... Castro. The ideas, in ... their purchase on our ... from the exploits of ... quote Castro, "We do ... that his ideas, as a ... as a man of thought, as ... tarnished moral virtues, ... of unexcelled human ... a man of spotless ... and will continue to have ... value". Given that ... Marxism was more a ... aspiration than achieve... an ethic than a scient... record of a life lived in ... is part of the evidence he ...

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The International Politics of the Zambian Rebellion

Faber and Faber. £4.95.

Robert Good, who was American ambassador in Zambia from March 1965 to 1969, and is now Dean of the Graduate School of International Studies at Denver (University, has written a diplomatic experiences "in the field" through the processes of academic analysis and research to considerable effect. Neither Harold Wilson nor any of the other British leaders who handled the Rhodesian crisis before or after the Rhodesian Unilateral Declaration of Independence (whether as ministers or officials, will read this dissection of their bungling and indecisiveness, the unfortunate side-effects they had on international relations, with pleasure. *UDI* is the best and most authoritative (and totally unbiased and impersonal) full-length study of the Rhodesian rebellion from the break-up of Federation to the African "No" to final Anglo-Rhodesian settlement reported by the Pearce Commission. It will be surprising if the later publication of state papers and memoirs substantially modifies Mr Good's basic judgment of the tragedy.

The question that the narrative inevitably throws up is whether, given the British decision not to use force (a decision which Mr Good examines thoroughly and with real sympathy), indirect methods of coercion could have been employed more successfully. One is inclined to think that the basic failure to appreciate the realities was evinced by Whitehall in 1963, when R. A. Butler deliberately put aside the opportunity of making Rhodesian independence a condition of Zambia's and Malawi's early secession from Federation and independence. This would have been denounced as immoral, and comparable to the surrender to South African racialism in 1910—but it is clear to many now, as it was to a few realists then, that this would have best served Harold Macmillan's policy of disengagement. Mr Butler was too much set on displaying his virtuosity by outmanoeuvring the honest and gentlemanly Winston Field from a weaker hand: so his successors got Ian Smith. The Conservative establishment (not the Monday Club) actually thought him even easier meat than Field ; they had a snobbish contempt for the Rhodesians, who they thought would accept the arrangements made for them more easily than the better-class White Kenyan settlers—a judgment taken over by the Labour Government. But Rhodesia's history and position were utterly different—and, where the Kenyan Whites split, the Rhodesians closed ranks.

Not even Mr Good can satisfactorily explain how Mr Wilson and his Cabinet were induced to believe, against all reason, that sanctions would produce the "quick kill". There may be a predisposition on the Left to turn to any measures that release them from facing the harsh arbitrament of war—though sanctions are warfare carried on by other means and produce a war psychology on both sides. But, as Mr Good shows, the proposition looked tempting : the target was heavily dependent on a luxury crop—tobacco—that could be denied its market, and on an import—oil—that could be cut off at sea. Mr Good makes the point that it was only when Britain's inefficiency and half-heartedness (and what was done was largely at Zambia's expense) in enforcing a full range of sanctions—i.e. a full blockade—became very plain that South Africa moved in decisively to underpin Rhodesian resistance. South Africa's position was pivotal, and a positively Butlerian handling of Pretoria was essential—but Labour had no such aptitude. The Rhodesians saw far further ahead, and, when they demonstrated that they could stand up to Mr Wilson, and that the businessmen and "moderates" could not topple the Front, South Africa converted the struggle into the war of attrition it became and remains. This made talks with the rebels inevitable.

Some day the processes by which Mr Wilson was misled will emerge. Given that the whole idea of gently pushing the African "No" to the Tiger back into "constitutionality", by an economic squeeze precisely designed to coerce them without making last-ditchers of them, was inherently unsound strategy, could any different tactics have produced a different outcome at the Tiger or Fearless negotiations ? Here the difficulty was that nobody, not even the South Africans, fully understood the balance of power in Salisbury. Few realized that behind Smith's inarticulacy lay a foxy politician. The successive détentes designed by Mr Wilson to bring British and Commonwealth opinion along in fact enabled Mr Smith to strengthen himself against his own ultras and pro-British loyalists, and so bring all his people towards the break with Britain, defiance of the world, and integration with South Africa (against Pretoria's will) at the right pace. For South Africa would have welcomed either the Tiger or Fearless formula—or that of Sir Alec Douglas-Home in 1971, by which time Mr Smith had extracted from everybody else most of what he wanted—subject to the face-saver on the five principles.

Except, in the end, the principle that required approval by the Africans of the settlement terms. It is a matter for conjecture whether the Africans would have said "Yes" to the Tiger plan. The Pearce veto put the years of mixed sanctioneering and negotiation into a new perspective, revealing their basic futility : the one positive effect was to turn African thinking towards force and, possibly, race war. As Mr Good shows, the price was paid by everybody, but most immediately by Zambia, whose difficulties he had himself to report to Washington and help alleviate as best he might. His chapters on the Zambian dimension to the Rhodesian affair extend our knowledge most usefully. It is in parts a sad and tragic story, and, if communist influences are growing in central Africa, and if African nationalism has taken a racialist turn that it need not have done, Mr Wilson and the Foreign Office must bear much responsibility. The near-extinction of British authority, political and moral, they will scarcely have the hardihood to deny.

ending the rules

DAVID BAILEY :

The European Community in the Seventies

Hutchinson. £3.50 (Midway.

HARUHO FUKUDA :

The EEC in Europe : Impact on the Third World

Macmillan. £4.95.

Both books on the European Community ... ing feebly to establish a role ... world, and Britain now dis... involved, there is an oppor... to stir the minds of those re... sible for the plight the Com... currently finds itself in—one ... recent events have merely ... emphasize. Existing Com... institutions are not designed ... ilitate the emergence of a for... and outward-looking role for ... munity in the world. Those ... trol of foreign policy within ... ber states are not inclined ... their grip in exchange for ... mon approach towards the ... problems of the last quar... the twentieth century—above ... relationship between the rich ... and the poor.

The European Community in the Seventies and *Britain in Europe : Impact on the Third World*, both of which ... extensively the Community's ... relations and the impact of ... ment on them, bear witness ... vast web of trading agree... with which the Community ... ared tens of countries, prin... around the Mediterranean ... Africa. They both cry ... at the manner in which ... agreements have beat the ... international trade ? In the ... Agreement on Tariffs and ... rules which are inevitably ... to be beat again, if the ... negotiations with forty-... African, Caribbean and ... states of the Third World ... for creating what Haruko ... describes as a "super-pre... " block among developing ... s. Neither author felt free to ... on whether the tolerance ... rest of the international trad... munity will bear this in ... ent, which will be a direct ... ence of enlargement and ... the parties directly con... (including Britain), glibly ... as inevitable.

... ince to depart from the well-worn track of the Community's existing relationships, to discuss in more detail certain possibilities for their relevance in the contemporary world, is the hallmark of both these books. Still less is either author interested in the possible emergence, across national frontiers within the Community, of a range of different political ideas (such as exist, for instance, in Britain) on what role the Community should choose to play.

Given these limitations, Richard Bailey provides an extremely useful review of relations at the Community level following Britain's accession and the adjustments necessary because of the Commonwealth links. He ends by suggesting, rather plainly, that "the fact that Britain's interests traditionally lie outside Europe should be the means of turning Community attention in outward directions". It is not a very convincing hope. Although he thoughtfully included a chapter on "The Community and the World Energy Problem", it was written before the current crisis ; otherwise, he might perhaps have been encouraged to draw some conclusions for Community relations with raw material suppliers in general, which could have been linked with the special role he believes the Community has as an economic, rather than a military, superpower.

The title of Haruko Fukuda's book is rather misleading, as it exclusively concerns the trading impact of Britain in Europe on the Third World. It is correct only as far as the accession of Britain to the Community has an impact on trading and aid. But some writers on the subject have used the fact of accession as an occasion to review more extensively the overall impact of the policies of the industrialized Community on the Third World. Many people familiar with the subject will regret Miss Fukuda's decision not to do this. Furthermore, she exposes herself to considerable criticism by concluding : "If the consensus is for restoring the world economic order according to fair rules, the major areas for international action have been largely identified. The two most important are non-tariff barriers and the trade of agricultural products." They may be two of the most important problems in international trade, but not surely for the future of the world economic order.

Out of the ashes ?

FRANÇOISE CAYRAC-BLANCHARD :

Le parti communiste indonésien

216pp Paris : Armand Colin. 62 fr.

"Djakarta is coming" ran the sinister right-wing slogan circulating in Chile just before the recent coup. What happened in a few months bridging the years 1965 and 1966 in Indonesia has indeed become a byword. The giant Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI) and its front organizations were ruthlessly put to the sword in one of the bloodiest massacres in history. Hundreds of thousands of survivors rot in jails and concentration camps or risk their lives in underground activity and armed struggle.

Aside from any intrinsic interest in the subject, it is obviously of great importance to know what factors led to the mushrooming of the PKI and to its abrupt extinction. In the emerging outlines of a post-Vietnam South-East Asia Indonesia occupies a key position, both in the geographical and in the economic sense. Its "loss" to the "free world" would be a serious blow to the rich countries already reeling from the impact of the "impudent" demands of the Arab powers. There has been much identifiably counter-insurgency research and writing on Indonesia by Western scholars financed directly or indirectly by government funds. There has also been some detached scholarly work. Sensitive studies by committed scholars sympathetic to the Indonesian revolution are rarer, but on the increase. The present volume is one of them.

The bulk of the carefully documented text is concerned with the Aidit-Lukman-Njoto period of the Party (1951-65), and with the subsequent post-Gestapu rejection by the decimated PKI of their "peaceful transition" tactics. Hard though the Aidit leadership had striven to "Indonesianize" Marxism-Leninism, and to make friends and influence people from all parts and all classes of the archipelago, the question that retrospectively persists in posing itself is whether their labours were ever realistically likely to come to fruition. True, there was President Sukarno, whose ability before the 1965 coup to protect the PKI ought not to be forgotten. But —mortal and vacillating as he was —this could not be enough. There were also, of course, the bloated mass movements associated more or less loosely with the party (and perhaps accounting for up to twenty million people before Gestapu's river of blood) ; but such association could not remotely compare with the life-or-death integration of the Chinese party and the peasant people among whom it found itself in the crucial Yenan days.

Françoise Cayrac-Blanchard studies, discusses and illustrates these and related considerations — for instance the relations of the PKI with the armed forces (a facet overlooked at its own peril by any revolutionary party). She also considers at some length the international orientation of the Party and the apparent and actual implications of its pro-Peking alignment immediately prior to the generals' coup. Everything moved with such bewildering rapidity through 1964 and the first three-quarters of 1965 that the PKI leadership may be excused some lag in effective adjustment. Unfortunately, the conjuncture proved fatal. In a sphere where certainty is almost certainly misplaced — the exact and proximate geneses of the September 30 Affair which in the result substituted General Suharto for President Sukarno—she is properly cautious and sceptical.

But of course the principal concern for anyone seriously interested in the 125 million people of Indonesia is their future. Does it lie with the present corrupt and cynical elite or with a mass party steeled in the crucible of armed struggle ? Can anyone seriously doubt the answer ? The present work can perhaps be faulted for some—at least apparent—prevarication on this all important question. It is not—by any means ! —that the author sympathizes with the reactionaries in Djakarta, but she seems uncertain of the capacity of the PKI to rise from the murderous ashes of 1965-66. Hard though it is for those of us in the Western world, we must ultimately come to accept reality : revolution is the main tendency in the world today, and the masses of Indonesia will as surely prevail in the next quarter of a century as those of mainland Asia in the last. This excellent book can help us understand why.

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The divisions of the land

ALAN R. H. BAKER and ROBIN A. BUTLIN (Editors):

Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles

702pp. Cambridge University Press. £11.

Since H. L. Gray's classic *English Field Systems* of 1915 and the Orwins' *The Open Fields* of 1938 there have been no large-scale studies of the structure and origins of this country's field systems. Specialized research of a local nature, however, has been widely undertaken, and *Studies of Field Systems in the British Isles* endeavours to bring this newer material together in order to examine afresh, in Gray's words, "the manner in which the inhabitants of a township subdivided and tilled their arable, meadow, and pasture land".

The subject is far from being of merely antiquarian interest: the field systems in use at any period were a major factor in determining the level of output obtained from the soil, and this was true for the many centuries in which agriculture dominated the economy. In each village the system adopted affected the amount of land that was cultivated and what was grown on it. Only in the past 150 years, after parliamentary enclosure had swept away most of the surviving common fields, and home food supplies had come to be readily supplemented by imports, has agricultural output not been influenced by communal field systems. The systems were also related in various ways to the diverse social structure of the countryside, and were influenced by the changes which occurred in rural society. Furthermore, the answers to important historical questions about the degree of superior efficiency achieved by enclosure and farming in severalty hang on obtaining a clearer understanding of the nature of the practices which they replaced.

The questions discussed in this volume, however, mainly relate to the origins of field systems and their characteristics at various periods. A number of the contributions are heavily descriptive, and, while they compare local systems at different times, using the surviving evidence, they rarely delve far into the reasons for change. As befits a volume produced almost entirely by geographers, there is a marked emphasis on physical influences such as soil, relief, and climate, but other factors that were undoubtedly important in influencing the development of the field systems are too often simply generalized as "social and economic" and quickly passed over. In fact, as the editors point out in their conclusion, some aspects of the physical environment may be regarded as constants rather than variables, and it is a weakness of the book as a whole that few of the contributors show a deep awareness of such key variables as markets and population changes.

For the historian, the emphasis on the physical environment—basic as it was to the nature of local field systems—makes the considerable labour of going through this very substantial work less rewarding than otherwise. It might have been an advantage, too, particularly for readers lacking an up-to-date knowledge of the subject, if the editors had placed their excellent discussion of the problem of the origins of field systems at the beginning rather than the end, so providing a frame of reference for the detailed regional studies. As it is, one must reach the final pages in order to appreciate the relevance of much of the specialized material to the questions which have long puzzled historians.

There is, indeed, no consensus. Some of the contributors seem to think that the more recent evidence which they present goes to confirm the theory that the British field systems were introduced by various groups of invaders from the Continent: others the contrary. The editors, in their judicious final survey, indicate that the "ethnic" views espoused by Gray, Homans and Jollife are "no longer particularly convincing", though Gray's emphasis on the significance of the physical environment is borne out by the later material. Similarly, the suggestion of Seebohm and the Orwins that the origin of the intermingled arable strips lay in the process of cooperative ploughing is shown to rest on dubious foundations. The editors appear to lean towards the more recent theory advanced by Joan Thirsk, the one historian among the contributors, that "common fields"—fields over which common rules of cultivation and grazing were operated—evolved from earlier unenclosed parcels of land not subject to general common rules, as a result of "the similar social and economic pressures to which all villages were exposed in the course of the centuries". Among the more important of these pressures were the fluctuations in population and the need to rationalize the use of land as the markets for agricultural produce expanded.

Recent studies vindicate Gray at least to the extent of supporting and further exemplifying his insistence on the regional diversity of field systems. The chapters on Wales, Scotland, and Ireland show this to be true of the supposed "Celtic zone", as of England. Physical features, as Gray emphasized, played a major role in determining the characteristics of the local systems. In Northumberland and Durham, for example, the moorlands and fells to the west of the region possessed only limited areas of arable associated with hamlets and isolated farms, while in the valley plains and scarplands to the east there were larger areas of arable with nucleated villages and multiple fields. Everywhere local systems changed over time under the influences of population growth, assarting from the waste, tenures, inheritance customs and market forces. The effects of expanding markets in bringing about changes designed to improve efficiency are particularly well brought out in a few chapters, for instance that dealing with the Chiltern Hills and their environs.

The flexibility of the field systems in use was thus far greater than the old textbook generalizations would have us suppose. In areas such as East Anglia, the Midlands, and the Chilterns there was much piecemeal enclosure at an early date. The number of fields was adapted to soil factors, rotations became more varied, and the grass balks in the fields were reduced in size as other supplies of grassland and fodder crops became available. Even within one village the frequency of fallowing might be varied to meet the needs of differing soils. There were some instances of complete freedom of cropping, as June Sheppard reports for Yorkshire, and quite commonly the unit of rotation was not the field but the furlong or group of furlongs, so that the number of fields in being was often irrelevant to the farmers' use of the land. Rotations involving grass leys, sown with clover or rye grass, and fodder crops of legumes and turnips had appeared in the common fields of the West Midlands by the middle eighteenth century or earlier, and in parts of East Anglia turnips and carrots were established as field crops from the 1670s.

The introduction of these innovations depended much on local conditions of soil, markets, transport, and other factors; and there were of course many examples of the conservative two-crops-and-a-fallow which justified Arthur Young's contempt for the "goths and vandals" of the open fields. However, improvement and adaptability were widespread, and were often supported by exchanges and consolidations of lands within the fields, as well as by piecemeal enclosures and strict regulation of the use of the commons. The village by-laws which controlled the farming of the fields, pastures, and commons were also flexible: they were frequently amended and added to, sometimes by short-lived regulations designed to meet some quite temporary situation.

There is evidence to suggest that complete or partial reorganizations of the field systems, commonplace in the sixteenth century and after, may also have been significant in the development of field systems during the Middle Ages. If substantiated, this evidence supports Dr Thirsk's view that the practices of common cultivation and pasturing were of relatively late introduction, and followed on the eventual need to regulate the individual cultivation of unenclosed parcels of strips or furlongs. Dr Thirsk considers that the active nature of the medieval land market makes it likely that the systematic distribution of the strips between the various farmers, as found in documentary evidence, is indicative of recent reorganization of holdings rather than of an unchanged common field system going back to remote centuries.

The problem is a highly complicated one, but it is clear that the systems were far from inflexible; that, on the contrary, they were frequently modified and rationalized in order to meet changing circumstances. Boundaries of the fields and the extent of the common rights fluctuated, and some of the changes made in past centuries were so far-reaching as to have serious adverse consequences for members of the village community. In the nature of the case, complete equality in acreages and soils could not be achieved when holdings and rights were changed. Every change inevitably operated "to the prejudice of some of the inhabitants", as an early sixteenth-century complaint had it. It follows from this that … closure, when it ever … was often a less traumatic … for the villagers than … critics have assumed. … enclosure and farming … was very far from new, … villages a long drawn … piecemeal enclosures, … of strips new cropping … and other changes prec… abolition of the surviv… fields and common rights … was the last stage in a … adjustment and reorga… went back for many … years

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Specialities

C. R. CHENEY:

Medieval Texts and Studies

371pp. Clarendon Press: Oxford University Press. £6.

One of the problems of the academic historian is to keep track of the articles on isolated topics in his field that lie embedded in unfamiliar periodicals and Festschrifts. There are indeed bibliographies of such things, but these are themselves rare and elusive, and soon outdated. Where is the medievalist who would claim familiarity with all the following publications in this book: *La Critica del Testo* (Florence); *Proceedings* of the Second International Congress of Medieval Canon Law at Boston College (Vatican Press); *The Jurist*; *Citeaux: Commentarii Cistercienses* (Belgium); *Mélanges St Bernard* (Dijon); and the Festschrifts of Gabriel Le Bras (Paris) and Eugène Vinaver (Manchester)? Yet the very names bear witness to C. R. Cheney's versatility. The pity is that a volume of collected papers is almost as difficult to recollect or obtain as is a Festschrift.

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Every item in this colle… value, if only for its fine … ship, but the title, alre… more than one well-know… texts, is misleading.

Dissenters

JOHN BRIGGS and IAN SELLERS (Editors):

Victorian Nonconformity

180pp. Edward Arnold. £3 (paperback, £1.50).

Victorian Nonconformity, one of a lengthening series entitled "Documents of Modern History", consists of extracts that illustrate almost every aspect of Victorian Dissent, the social and political as well as the doctrinal, though it perhaps falls a little short on the handful of saints and mystics which that discipline threw up—such men, for example, as James Smetham. Its compilers have cast their nets judiciously and have gathered contributions from Charles Kingsley, Mrs Gaskell, Mrs Oliphant, even Browning (the "frightful chapel in "Christmas Eve and Easter Day"), as well as numerous passages from sermons, memoirs and evangelical journals. No Dickens, however, for obvious re… at the upper end, any … misses also the gorgeous … Mr Puddleham's new ch… ing in Trollope's … *Bullhampton*.

All told, there are we… hundred of these excerpts … under headings "relati… formity to the Individ… Church, Society, Culture … and the World"—and … have been carefully … widely researched. John … Ian Sellers's introduct… biographical notes … books for further study … intelligently done and … rally presented. As the … this is a collection that … special interest to … engaged in interdiscip… torian studies". And to … even if (as is the case … compendiums) it is … to read straight through …

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Coming to a happy end

…HEL ANDERSON:

…Purple Heart Throbs

…p. Hodder and Stoughton. £2.95.

…n completely bored with life …le Cecil, the hero of *Under Two* …s, reads the "yellow-papered …ances" of Delphine Demirep. …rrupted at a crucial moment he …ls with "plaintive resignation":

> …'m really in an interesting chap…; Aglae has just had a marquis …ill her son, and two brothers kill …ach other in the Bois, about her, …nd is on the point of discovering …man she's in love with to be her …wn grandfather; the complication … absolutely thrilling."

…da was being satirical—she be…d herself to be one of the "last …writers of English prose"—but … has not saved her from taking …true place in this entertaining …ey of the Delphine Demireps of …ast hundred years.

…chel Anderson's starting-point …e publication of Charlotte M. …ge's *The Heir of Redclyffe* in … the date when "popular …ntic fiction began". The …e of Charlotte Yonge as the …der of a school of writing …h leads eventually to Barbara …land seems at first wilfully …tric, but the story of the ways …hich popular romantic fiction …lops is often as complicated …unlikely as the plots of the …ls themselves, and Miss Anderson moves skilfully through both. … protracted emotional experi…es of Charlotte Yonge's heroines …ch are rewarded with religious …er than sexual fulfilment do …y one recurrent tendency in …ntic fiction, through Mrs Eliza …ard's *The Soul of the Bishop* …), to Florence L. Barclay's *The* …y (1909) and Ethel M. Dell's …-religious" *The Way of an* … (1912).

… "naughty" or "shocking" …rs of the same period—Ouida, …a Broughton, Elinor Glyn, and …ly later, E. M. Hull—sold just …l as their more spiritual sisters, … spite of the greater "daring" …eir themes, they offered no …challenge to life. Gritzko, the … Russian Prince in Elinor …'s *His Hour* (1910), does not … rape Tamara, the young wealthy English widow, but he could have done and she thinks he has.

Diana Mayo, the heroine of E. M. Hull's *The Sheik* (1919), is luckier in this respect. As Miss Anderson points out, she is "the first romantic heroine to be sexually assaulted, to learn during three hundred pages of it to enjoy it, and to marry the man who did it". Not that this is too significant an innovation. Sheik Ahmed Ben Hassan turns out to be the son of a Scottish earl which makes everything seem at least fairly respectable. E. M. Hull shares with Charlotte Yonge what Shaw called "the ready-mades and reach-me-downs of the ragshop in which Romance keeps its stock of happy endings to misfit all stories"—married love on the one hand, spiritual satisfaction on the other. And, more importantly, they share the eagerness to linger over a central emotional experience, focusing on this entirely as an end in itself. E. M. Hull's treatment of rape is little different from Charlotte Yonge's treatment of death.

At least the romantic novelists of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries conveyed an illusion of shock, of challenging their readers' values, even if these were ultimately reinforced rather than undermined. But the more recent practitioners have been hard put to find anything shocking enough to write about and have retreated, quite consciously, into a stultifyingly moral world. Miss Anderson gives an interesting example of a novel by Ruby M. Ayres, first published in 1939 and now reissued with a revised text:

> In 1939 "he ran his hands over her shoulders and slim body". But in 1969 he does not touch her at all. As society becomes more permissive, romance becomes more strait-laced; for it is one of the aims of present-day romantic novelists to show the way to a better, purer, more moral way of life.

Today the romantic novelists' isolation from both "serious" literature and dominant trends in society would seem to be complete. It is epitomized by the formation of the Romantic Novelists Association, the specialist publishers who carry out carefully planned market research into the type of woman most likely to read romantic novels, and the newsletters and guides for budding authors carrying advice on "How to Convey Emotion" and "The Use of Endearments".

All of this points to self-imposed limitations which conflict with the claims made by romantic novelists that they are dealing with eternal truths. The "Queen of Romance", Denise Robins, describes what is for her the essence of romantic fiction:

> No matter what winds of change have blown through the world, romance has never changed. At the root it is unalterable. Its source lies in the heart of every human being.

Perhaps the winds of change will never again blow through romantic novels, but clearly some of the novelists are conscious of the kinds of breezes they may be stirring up. Miss Anderson quotes Violet Winspear captured in a marvellous moment of self-confession:

> I don't really think that romantic novels should be called "romantic" really. Between you and me, I think they're basically twisted sex stories. I mean, it is a bit sadistic, isn't it, to be reading about a man blowing his top with frustration because he can't get it. . . . Good God, I tell you, honestly, sometimes I get so worked up myself writing the stuff that I don't know what to do.

"Twisted" and "sadistic" are probably too strong, but "frustration" of some kind must lie deep in the unalterable heart of romantic fiction. It offers so much, so often, in such blatant terms, and then comes up with so little. The very titles are indistinguishable from hard-core pornography—*Her Mad Month, A Girl for Sale, A Virgin in Mayfair*—but the torrid passions and tempestuous love affairs so crudely hinted at rarely live up to the promise, though Elinor Glyn in *Three Weeks* almost made it. And that ultimate refusal to face life is surely a major factor in the continuing success story of romantic fiction.

In one of the best chapters of *The Purple Heart Throbs* Miss Anderson analyses the "aseptic love" of Hospital Romances. Significantly, these are set mainly in privately run hospitals and clinics; they began to flourish with the emergence of the National Health Service in the 1940s. Hospitals provide, as Miss Anderson argues, "good copy" for the modern romantic novelist. Lots of doctors and nurses of just the right age, drama potential on all sides, life, death, and a scene familiar to readers yet also sufficiently remote for them to believe that anything could happen. Well, almost anything, for the "hospital romances seldom feature the love-lives of those doctors and nurses who work in the maternity wards . . . a confinement is a reminder that sexual relations have taken place".

The Purple Heart Throbs will not satisfy professional literary historians. Miss Anderson accepts too readily the belief that romantic fiction is a "sub-literature" and never introduces the major novelists into her discussions, in the way that, for instance, Q. D. Leavis does constantly in both her major study *Fiction and the Reading Public* and her *Scrutiny* essays. Comparative judgments between "high" and "low" would make *Jane Eyre* just as suitable a mid-Victorian starting point as *The Heir of Redclyffe* and, beyond this, would raise many questions of an altogether different kind from those explored here. There are also some curious omissions, most notably *East Lynne*, and Miss Anderson is unadventurous in her attempts to relate the changes in romantic fiction to social and political forces.

But, by restricting the level of interpretation, Miss Anderson does succeed in delineating the rigid conventions which govern romantic fiction, and the pattern she traces demonstrates clearly that underlying similarities over the years are more important than surface changes. The amused tolerance of Miss Anderson's style is appropriate to the subject, and her quotations from the novels are a constant delight.

For this is a world where someone really does say: "How would you feel, I wonder, if you knew your one and only sister was going to marry a rotter?"; where a woman can be "kissed as she had never been kissed before"; where the neglected fiancée can rebuke the Bishop, her future husband, with the immortal line: "I don't think that you ought to have engaged yourself to me just before Lent". And there truly is a hero who when scornfully described as being "primitive" replies: "So is God; so is nature. I don't want to be anything else. After all, it's the big, primitive things that count."

The ambiguous appeal of romantic fiction begins on the cover. Balancing the lurid titles are the melodious names of the authors: Ouida, Marie Corelli, Jennifer Ames, Rhoda Broughton, Elizabeth Gilzean, Maysie Grieg. If a name fails to fit then similar pseudonyms are easy to find, and Major Charles Mason (suitable for the hero, but hardly the author of a romantic novel) can be transformed into Elaine Carr or Phyllis Marlowe. And, if a name like Berta Ruck (author of *Arabella the Awful* and *Shopping for a Husband*) isn't melodious at all, it does convey a sense of homeliness which is the next best thing.

Nothing conveys the essential innocuousness of romantic fiction more forcibly than the cover of Margaret Pedler's *The Barbarian Lover* which is one of Miss Anderson's well-chosen illustrations. Against a black-and-white chequered background, a steely faced, tight-lipped man is shown discarding a wedding ring, while an impassioned and beautiful girl clings desperately to him. "First read the book", the browser is advised, "then do the Crossword."

Italy's first bestseller

…NDO DE AMICIS:

… by Luciano Tamburini

… Turin: Einaudi. L3,000.

…Italian children's books, both …hed in the 1880s, were very …ful and are still very popular …: *Pinocchio* (1883) and *Cuore* …. But whereas the reputation … first has not suffered any … critical onslaught and the …al consensus about its status …masterpiece has not wavered, …eputation of *Cuore* has been …ly shaken.

… book was an instant success, …st bestseller in Italian literature: forty editions in a year, a … copies by 1923. Unlike those … by Verga, Fogazzaro and …nzio, its characters became …r to all Italians, and not only … educated upper classes: and …nder, since *Cuore* was a set… for at least two generations of … schoolboys. The popularity …rone, Derossi, Coretti and the …n be compared to that of Sherlock Holmes in this country: the … of Italy was gratified when a …ted sculptor portrayed them … Galleria Nazionale, and newspapers were full of arguments about …likeness. Nor was the success …re limited to Italy: French, … and English editions …ed very quickly. A Russian …tion was made in 1906, apparently by Lenin's sister.

… from the start, the church …d the absence from the book … religious sentiment: no mention of either Christmas or Easter in … of school-life! Yet Pope John … from *Cuore* in St Peter's at …ening of the Vatican Council.

It was a strange destiny for Edmondo De Amicis, a moderate socialist, to become popular in Communist circles: it was even stranger for this paragon of anticlericalism to move the imagination of a Pope.

The critical time for the reputation of *Cuore* came with the advent of Fascism. De Amicis's extremely mild socialism, even if it was accompanied by an excessive dose of militarism and patriotism, was alarming enough for Mussolini, who had the book banned from schools. By reaction, this should have endeared De Amicis to the anti-Fascists, but the fall of Mussolini did not restore *Cuore* to its former position. From his prison Gramsci had denounced the servility of De Amicis towards the ruling classes of his time, and for the new, democratic Italy it was not possible to recognize itself in the narrow, paternalistic society of 1886.

But worse was to come. As well as its political backwardness, the morality of *Cuore* began to be discussed. Antonio Baldini lamented the abundance of scenes of horror and violence in a book conceived for the education of children, and, worse than that, he discovered a measure of sadism in it. In an essay significantly entitled "In Praise of Franti", Umberto Eco turned the book upside down, demolishing all its worthies, the Father ("a disquieting character", "a Philistine philanthropist", "an autocrat"), the Son ("a latent homosexual", "a smug hypocrite"), and Garrone ("always on the side of the Powerful"), and made a hero instead of Franti, the villain of the story. This orgy of desecration continued with Alberto Arbasino, who insisted on De Amicis's sadism and perversely described the series of "Monthly Tales" in *Cuore* as "a cannibalistic banquet of regional specialities" and *Cuore* itself as "the abominable *red book* of the Typical Piedmontese Right Minded Person".

Now we have Luciano Tamburini's very impressive new edition of the book. This is both a critical edition (re-establishing the original text of 1886), a meticulous historical, sociological and even topographical commentary, and a critical discussion of *Cuore*. Signor Tamburini's interest in De Amicis is certainly not without sympathy. The immense amount of information he has collected cannot be anything but the result of a long and consuming labour of love. Nothing that can help the reader to a better understanding of *Cuore* escapes him, and he has taken great pains to consult and report not only all the passages in De Amicis's other works and correspondence that have even the faintest connexion with *Cuore*, but has also checked all the regulations and bye-laws existing in Turin in 1885, concerning schools, the army, public transport, the roads, the fire service and all the other municipal activities that get even a fugitive mention in the book. In doing this he has managed to illuminate much of the background to *Cuore*.

But Eco and Arbasino have left their mark on Signor Tamburini, and when the time comes to pass judgment, although he disapproves of their excesses, he does not dissociate himself from their negative verdict. It is a pity that he did not pay more heed to what Croce said of *Cuore* in 1914: "De Amicis was the first to pass from the study of the life of the bourgeoisie and the educated classes, to the life of the people." Obviously the time for a dispassionate revaluation of *Cuore* has not yet come, but when it does, the critic will take more account of Croce than of Eco.

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Aetiologies of autism

FRANCES TUSTIN:

Autism and Childhood Psychosis

200pp. Hogarth Press. £2.50.

AUTISM IS A new word that is creeping over the technical barrier and into general use. Such seepage is tiresome both to professionals, who see their tools blunted, and to lay people, who may feel bamboozled. Still, it is no good fighting all change; schizophrenia, it is true, has been weakened into a metaphor for indecision and depression debased from its suicidal implication to a mere mood, but general use of technical words has, nevertheless, introduced the public to the operational implications that lie behind words, and to an awareness of mental upsets and their practical importance. This awareness has value, for it acts against our feeling that disturbances such as alcoholism and morphine addiction only happen to other people's relations. It questions, too, whether such troubles are always due to a moral failure on the part of people who won't pull themselves together.

The few people who have to confront the facts of schizoid hallucination and depressive suicide are the same professionals who, in average expectation, are the only ones who really have to know about autism. Like so much that is new, autism came from the United States. It seemed at first that it was the case with autism, as in so many matters, that the United States was first in the field and best—best at producing autism and then in recognizing it. Kanner's paper in 1943 described 400 cases of children up to five years old who had an "innate inability to form the usual biologically provided, affective contact with people . . .". Following its publication, the problem arose at once of trying to determine what caused this inability. Innate merely means "from birth" and is descriptive rather than definitive. However, Kanner himself raised the question of whether the inability derives from a taught deficiency or is inherited. He pointed out that the great majority of his cases came from homes where both parents were intellectuals, and gives examples of families who showed what, in common terms, could be called a failure to understand what babies need. His examples are convincing and also alarmingly homely. From the other direction, and at the same time, the geneticists have sought to examine whether the innate disability lies in the genes.

Frances Tustin's book brings evidence from the middle ground between the two positions. It is an authoritative review by an expert, both of the type of problem involved and of the sort of measures that psychotherapeutic understanding can offer when working in conjunction with willing and caring parents. Her record of treatments carries conviction and demonstrates that autistic processes can, under ideal conditions, be treated and ameliorated if not "cured"; the pathological processes slowed, stopped or reversed; the child come to make something of its other potential.

However little is achieved in some cases, this is of wide importance and has vital human implications. Capacity to reverse the process of arrest in development may not, however, elucidate the nature/nurture issue in the aetiology of the condition. The position of biology is that genetic endowment confers potentiality, while the organism's experience facilitates or suppresses it. We see this in congenital conditions of physical origin such as mongolism or spasticity. A mongol can be helped to a much better or worse adaptation to life, and the spastic whose condition is non-genetic, such as a birth injury, may have a first-class intelligence which, without skilled and specialized help, never develops properly because of the physical problems. Government policy to provide education according to need, even for the severely abnormal, reflects the growth of specialism in helping such cases. Wonders can be worked, within limits, for even the most severe congenital conditions, and this may go for autism too.

Autism and Childhood Psychosis helps us to understand what is involved in the wider environmental aspects. The tiny manifestations, or hints, in ordinary children of what is grossly evident in the autistic reveal the influence exerted by experience in normal child development. The way in which help can be offered is, for the rest of us, a normal experience. At home, up to the age of five, the environment, roughly, adapts to the child. In schooling, the child is progressively asked to adapt to the school. In the long run studies such as this one can help to define the point at which the child is asked to adapt. What might be called "The Black Paper" stress on the *duty* to learn, as well as the alternative "progressive" idea of teaching through meeting needs and wishes can both be set in a context of individual need and can help us to define the relevance of the two alternative philosophies.

Mrs Tustin's cases of autism and childhood psychosis, seen from the point of view of parents whose children are well, may not seem very treatable, yet these children do learn to speak and may speak not only words but sentences; they may become less destructive and less eccentric; they may grow up to live in the world without needing too much special consideration. This improvement is hard to analyse accurately. Not all that is reversible or open to mitigation is environmentally produced, and not all that is the result of experience and parental handling is reversible. In an infant or child many psychological problems are irreversible, like the effects of some physical illness such as poliomyelitis, but in so far as the environment plays a part at all we may think we could work through the environment towards prevention. This is the "middle" position. To accept such ideas is, however, painful for any of us who happen to have experienced autism, in all its varying degrees, in our own children, or in those with whom we have been closely associated. The temptation, in such a case, to think of the affliction as hereditary is very strong.

This is the attitude of classical psychiatry, which, as taught at the Maudsley Hospital and other centres, has tended to concentrate on and explore the hereditary and biochemical possibilities of the origin of psychosis and the other severe forms of mental disorder. Environmental aspects can then be ignored, for the control of symptoms by drugs, in many ways so remarkable a success, largely treats a side-effect. The origin of a condition does not need to concern a busy practitioner overwhelmed by his case-load, and as a result many psychiatrists think of themselves as "scientists"—cool observers who need have no empathy with the sufferers they treat. This may be a protection, as it obviously is for surgeons, but it led the Professor of Psychiatry in London University, Sir Denis Hill, to say in his 1968 Inaugural Lecture that subjective empathy must be fostered in psychiatrists and that "there will be some [psychiatrists] who, by virture of their personality limitations will be unable to enter into therapeutic relationships. Rather like surgeons with a phobia for blood."

At the other extreme, the psychoanalysts, as we know, develop their empathy—some would think at the expense of their judgment and scientific veracity; but, as *The Times* Medical Correspondent wrote in 1959:

> There is a common attitude, that the transmission of a gene entails a train of inevitable consequences, culminating in the acquisition by the possessor of that gene, of a set of symptoms or characters. The clear lesson of experimental genetics, on the other hand, is that characters, as such, are not inherited. What is inherited is a genetic constitution capable of responding during its course of development to the environments in which development occurs. . . . In most cases the fate of the individual is not fixed in the fertilized egg, but gradually works itself out during development as *one of a few* pathways out of many possible ones that is followed. That which is inherited is not a character but a potentiality if the environmental stipulations are met.

It is the question of environmental provision which Mrs Tustin raises and which psychoanalysts, ethologists and students of infancy are busy considering. Observations of infants and children and therapeutic work with adults led Donald Winnicott to declare outright that "psychosis is an environmental deficiency disease".

Winnicott showed, and many others since have proved to themselves, that environmental failures in infancy can be made good both at the time and later, and the possibility of therapy has sharpened observation of early and earliest childhood. Mrs Tustin is one of the very few people who have chosen to work especially with children in this area. Four of the patients described in her book are three years seven months, ten months, six years and two-and-a-half years. There are observations reported on one-year-olds and all ages in between. Brought together, these are compelling facts, which confirm experiences and doubts that many people must have felt in an unprofessional, family way about children.

Many things *do* leave little children unaffected. Mrs Tustin helps us to sort out the things that matter and, by implication, some that do not. For instance, it can be dangerous to build up an expectation in a baby and then frustrate it. This is because to build up anticipation and reliable patterns of self-awareness in a baby takes dedication. Only someone in hourly contact with a little baby can both read its cues and teach it to be an instrument of pleasure and fulfilment to its devoted mother-figure. Where such devotion and skilled sensitivity is not available, the development of talents is stunted in the baby and capacities are lost. Babies and children are not machines; food is not petrol and they cannot be serviced impersonally like a car. Moreover, if they are so handled they come to feel themselves as mechanical things and show this in their later character. Mrs Tustin makes it clear how different degrees of lack of devotion are reflected in the defensiveness which may develop even in the very young baby.

At a later age, James Robertson's films of children of two years old and younger, separated for the first time from their parents, reveal a parallel to autism arising in reaction to a slightly later deficiency. The effect on the baby can be seen to be appalling even by, or especially by, the layman, who is not hardened by experience. The use to which such knowledge can be put is another matter, but Mr Robertson's dedication and skill have now led to a whole movement for maternal care for young children in hospitals.

The children filmed by Mr Robertson are deprived; children suffering from *privation* are another case. Privation is a primary failure of stimulation and support and this is to be distinguished from hospital cases, who suffer deprivation of a support upon which they once depended. Privation is a primary failure of mothering. It needs to be said, however, that the aberrant mothering at its source is the result of factors which, in practice, are beyond the control of the mother. Quite often, therefore, a nanny or foster-mother is the simplest, as well as the traditional, way of planning against such disasters. For one of the agencies at work is the psychological "absence" of a mother who is *physically* present. These things are almost entirely unconscious to the mother, who feels that by rendering the necessary *physical* services she is in the clear; but for a baby to develop it has to be a pleasure in some predictable way to someone, and vice versa. Learnt cues must be reliably reinforced. You cannot promise a dog a walk or its food and then proceed to give it a beating instead of what it anticipated, without making it bewildered. Many older babies have this type of bewildering experience, as Mr Robertson has shown, but it is only in the past ten or twenty years that it has been realized that conditioning and habit formation begin from birth. Because of this new awareness, many psychoanalysts would not recommend adoption of a baby that is more than a few hours old because it may already have been exposed to that double bind which, as in the case of the dog, *offers* the cue for one response and then demands another. Why adopt a bewildered baby if you can have a new-born one?

Mrs Tustin's book, however, is not only an introduction to the childhood origins of attitudes found on the wilder shores of behaviour and feeling; it is also an introduction to psychotherapy from the inside: what it means to do this work, how it feels to need such help, what forms of help can be offered, and the limits upon its acceptance. If the reader goes along with Mrs Tustin a new world is opened. The raw material is pretty barbaric, as the following teacher's report shows:

> Susan's temper outbursts have altered over the last two years. Previously she used to attack her own face, making holes at the base of her ear lobes, which she would not allow to heal over. Then she progressed to making holes in one or both cheeks which she would make bleed profusely. These holes used to worry her very much, and very gradually she has stopped doing this.

Taken literally this kind of behaviour is strictly "irrational"; and we are such slaves of the rational that *we* cannot easily see these experiences as metaphorical, or even "poetic" ones.

The clinical problem is posed by the case of John, who at the age of two years six months was seen by a psychiatrist who feared mental defect. Six months later he was found to have made a small, encouraging development, in that he now placed two cars the right way up, having previously kept them upside down all the time in order to [...] wheels:

> There has been a fai[...] from birth to take his [...] in his stride, as if the[...] reluctance and a drag [...] stage. He now shows [...] the attitudes we ass[...] autism. His chief inte[...] to be to tap different [...] to spin round objects [...] cinated by mechanic[...] parts, and has always [...] clever at learning to [...] body. Although he is [...] footed he still does no[...] self; not that he cannot [...] he will not. This is w[...] by jibbing at milestones [...] excessive anxiety at [...] days of screaming, but [...] is much less evident. [...] useful speech, and only [...] cates very tentatively [...] use your hand. Neverthe[...] sure he was capable of [...] primitive contact at th[...] level, and that therefore [...] something on which [...] build an attempt at the[...] deepest anxiety is as to [...] the basic determinant [...] may be an inherent degr[...] tal retardation.

The treatment of John is [...] in the kind of detail which [...] strates both the child's po[...] that facing the therapis[...]

Two quotations which [...] puts at the start of her [...] "Psychotic depression" o[...] unsettling. Margaret Mahle[...] 1961: "What we seldom se[...] is rarely described in the [...] is the period of grief and [...] which I believe inevitably [...] and ushers in the complete [...] break with reality." Th[...] quotation is from Winnicott [...] in 1958, and concerns infa[...] first weeks of life. Win[...] cribes the experience which [...] reconstructed from th[...] analysis of adults as the lo[...] mother by a nurseling:

> The loss might be that o[...] *aspects of the mouth* w[...] appear from the infant's [...] view along with the m[...] the breast when there [...] tion, at a date earlier th[...] which the infant had re[...] stage of emotional dev[...] which could provide equ[...] dealing with the loss.

The same loss of the mother [...] months later would be a lo[...] (the mother seen "objec[...] a separate being) "wit[...] added element of *loss of p[...] subject*" (loss of part of th[...]

So science has discov[...] every woman knows: tha[...] cannot survive psychologi[...] physically without the [...] vironment provided by th[...] For it is devotion that [...] needs and needs for [...] hours a day to start wi[...] failures of devotion th[...] or accentuate psychosis in [...] lopment of very tiny babies [...] possible to say this now [...] believed because etholo[...] pared the way. One thinks [...] red Lorenz's description [...] geese, ducks and jackdaws [...] experiments, be profoundly [...] by very short periods of co[...] in the early days of life. [...] true then it may, in socia[...] apply to human beings; and [...] Mavis Gunther has obser[...] filmed the effects of distu[...] the first two or three hours of life.

Mrs Tustin's book is [...] marily for professionals in [...] of psychiatry, psychoanalys[...] lated disciplines but it is [...] greatest interest to other [...] scholarly apparatus does no[...] and her clear writing and [...] of the technical terms re[...] fact that classical psychia[...] on medicine, with its diagno[...] gories and its hope of find[...] cal or genetic aetiologies, ca[...] plemented. The fact th[...] drugs which can control [...] moods is as old as gin and [...] These remain useful at th[...] level, where mass disorder [...] be contained and pharm[...] more humane than confine[...] We have to accept this [...] on the large scale, but [...] with a single infant ma[...] religious respect for [...] and individuality which [...] in those who immediately [...] us and which, as Mrs Tu[...] can be converted into crea[...] constructive, if sometimes [...] expressions of the personal[...] which makes each h[...] unique.

The Born Exile

George Gissing

GILLIAN TINDALL

'A highly intelligent and animated attempt to solve the "Gissing mystery" . . . She penetrates the secret of Gissing's power to attract.'
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Strategic pinpoints

[...]NRY C. WILKINSON:

[...]uda from Sail to Steam
[...] History of the Island from 1784 [...] 1901

[...]ume I: 409pp
[...]ume II: pp410-951

[...]ord University Press. £12.50 the [...]

[...]face area—twenty by fifty-nine [...]re miles: population—52,251: [...]ration by scholarship—951 [...]es. *Parvum in multo*? At first [...], yes. Indeed the prospective [...]der needs to be a long-distance [...]ner. So many laps of parish [...]p politics, so much local history, [...]any details of local schooners [...]ched, of local belles imported [...]rried off to hot or snowy fates [...]wards from Houston to Halifax [...] time and again, as one is [...]pted to set these weighty tomes [...], exasperated perhaps by minu[...] on the illness of some expatriate [...]el's wife and the long-forgotten [...]cadillos of a merchant member of [...] Assembly the author returns us [...] the broader view. The reader must [...]pare for a lengthy expedition, [...]ng which he continually emerges [...] the enclosing jungle to be re[...]ded from a succession of hilltops [...] an all-embracing prospect. For [...] is no doubting the importance [...]hese ocean pinpoints at the height [...]he Napoleonic and later the Am[...]n wars. Constant threats of in[...]on; French pressures in the [...]lles; naval battles; smuggling [...] prize-taking; strategic ship[...]ding; mercantile rivalry; the [...]le of the two Canadas to sur[...] the links with Jamaica and [...]foundland—in all of them Ber[...] had honourable and less [...]urable parts to play. These, [...] the study illustrates, were years of excitement and uncertainty. Famine and yellow fever succeeded brief bouts of prosperity. The White colonists, swollen by the ranks of the often licentious soldiery and an embarrassing influx of prisoners-of-war (not forgetting the rotting hulks with their miserable deserters) still narrowly outnumbered the placid, soon-to-be-liberated slaves. Placement and peculation were rife and the islanders could have given a number of illuminating lessons to the Admiralty Division of this century on the practical application of Prize Law. The Assembly too in its obduracy could have run some useful courses for other dependent territories on ways and means of outflanking the imperial Treasury.

Henry Wilkinson, whose quaintly pleasing Victorian style reflects the innumerable documents on which he draws, supplies a host of character sketches, amusing, pathetic or robust. A packed gallery of governors, for the most part prototype admirals and colonels, is in view. Merchant princes and adventurers (how widely dispersed they were, these members of the *cent familles*) shuttle to and fro between Hamilton, St John's, London, Halifax and Kingston. Occasionally some curious celebrity, doctor, statesman or engineer flits across the scene, most outstanding among them perhaps Tom Moore.

It is possible that, as one late eighteenth-century governor unkindly put it, the minds of the "generality of the whites are uncultivated like their lands". But, as a later observer wrote, "Even the hapless sons of Africa strove to emulate their masters in expression of loyalty"—stimulated perhaps by a "quantum sufficient of porter" provided on that "animating occasion" which gave cause for this reflection. And yet, at the height of the Napoleonic wars (with the shadows of a later common agricultural policy closing in?)—"this is the most miserable place to get supplies. Beef (perfect carrion) is 4s a lb; eggs 6s a dozen; poultry 10s a couple and fish 10d a pound. The island is beautiful but the people indolent and inhospitable." Not perhaps much cheaper now although, barring some recent sensational and unhappy violence, there is little to be seen today of laziness or rudery. In this age the package tour is all and the honeymoon couple from Little Neck or Wounded Knee demand their pounds of flesh and service.

Dr Wilkinson had already given us *The Adventurers of Bermuda from its discovery to 1684*, and *Bermuda in the Old Empire* which carried this detailed survey forward to 1784. Soon perhaps he will box his compass and show why a colony with so ancient an assembly should remain content, towards the close of a century star-studded with an independence cast, to remain in a state of relative dependent bliss. It would be interesting to hear whether this results from Bermuda's obvious detachment from the Caribbean; from the proximity of an expatriate Mafia; or simply from the realization which side one's tourist bread is buttered.

However that may be, meticulous scholarship has been emulated in an excellent index: almost faultless proof reading (on page 313 the date 1913 should read 1813) and by the provision of the too often omitted detailed map. For those who can stand the course this is a survey which will bring profit and pleasure to constitutional historians, socio-economists and naval historians alike.

[...]ather-figures

[...]LAS PIKE (General Editor):

[...]alian Dictionary of Biography

[...]me 4: 1851-1890, D-J

[...]d by Bede Nairn, Geoffrey [...] and Russel Ward.

[...]. Melbourne University Press. [...]buted by Angus and Robertson.

[...]Australian Dictionary of Bio[...] [...]y continues its coverage of the [...]d 1851-90 with Volume 4, D-J. [...] filled Volume 3, published in [...] (reviewed in the *TLS*, June 11, [...]). That there are few figures of [...] importance in this volume is [...]ck of the alphabetical draw. [...]eld of 559 men and women is [...]dictably, by politicians and [...]alists, with journalists and [...]men as runners-up. The period [...] of expansion, boom and self-[...]ence. While politicians and [...]s are working out issues with[...] states, in their relationship [...]ach other and with the mother-[...]ry, *Marvellous Melbourne* has its first night and George Darrell produces his own play *The Sunny South*, declaring it worthy of comparison only with *Hamlet*. The fortunes of pastoralists like Dowling, Durack and Falkiner are founded, and, related with them, those of financiers, wool-brokers and grain merchants like Dalgety and Darling. Meanwhile the way of life of those at the bottom of this pyramid of wealth, the stockmen and sheep-shearers individually too obscure for inclusion here, is immortalized by the ballads of Adam Lindsay Gordon, which in turn help to create a national image.

Thanks to the enthusiasm or expertise of individuals, life in this period offers wider possibilities of enjoyment than in the days of the convict settlements. The *ADB*, which has always had an affection for "fathers", here includes Silvester Diggles, "the father of music in Brisbane", and Henry Harrison, "father of Australian rules football", whose coffin bore a wreath of violets in the shape of a football. Famous studs and horse-races are established. Journalism thrives, commonly under pen-names, the most famous being "The Vagabond" affected by that shrewd but compassionate "inside" reporter John Stanley James.

Visitors from England include Havelock Ellis, who later wrote that his three years in New South Wales seemed to him like "those three years while Paul was in Arabia". However, he had a brief affair with an auctioneer's daughter at Grafton which, his biographer suggests with unnecessary gravity, "increased his understanding of human affection". Froude was lionized during his year in Australia on the strength of his *History of England*, but harshly criticized for *Oceana*, published on return; the *Age* declared that Froude's mind was "an absolute blank" on Australian political issues. Dickens is properly accorded a place. Although he never visited Australia, his novels are full of references to it. Dickens's sons, Alfred D'Orsay Tennyson and Edward Bulwer Lytton, migrated to Australia but the best-known emigrant was of course Mr Micawber.

Two feminists, Caroline Dexter and Henrietta Dugdale, are included; also the German born naturalist Amalie Dietrich, whose response to the pioneer work of collecting specimens in Australia reads like a song of joy: "No one circumscribes my zeal . . . I speedily forget the discomforts of heat and mosquitoes in the unbounded feeling of joy that animates me when, at every step, I light upon treasures that no one has secured before me." Less happy was Eliza Donnithorne, jilted on her wedding morning, thereafter to live a recluse and eccentric, in Australian tradition the original of Miss Havisham.

Most contributors write in a straightforward, readable style; only a few descend into pious waffle or pomposity ("concinnity" would be more in place in a spelling-bee than in the *ADB*). Compression of facts is of course necessary: however, occasional conjunctions provoke a chuckle, as in "He published *A Few Love Rhymes of Married Life* (1890) but also enjoyed boxing and was a lieutenant in the volunteer cavalry". Two general suggestions might be offered. First, the widespread use of quotation marks, even for short phrases of common property, should be watched; it imparts an air of lack of self-confidence to the whole. Secondly, there is too much uncritical quotation from obituarists, usually unnamed, whose tributes are conventionally fulsome; if so many were really held in such high esteem, what are we to make, for instance, of Gavan Duffy's outcry against "the bitter and blockhead cabals of colonial life"? Perceptive comments like Dr Currey's on the character of Governor Denison come like a breath of fresh air.

There is a noticeable tendency to linger on the details of death, interment and obituary; yet it is arguable that while it may not add to our knowledge of X the man to learn that his mourners travelled "by train to Saddleworth and thence to the cemetery by char-à-bancs", such details (perhaps even the word char-à-bancs) add to our sense of period. In another way, the enshrinement of detail catches, like flies in amber, small vivid episodes with power to stimulate the imagination of future historians and novelists: Z, a prosperous wool-broker holidaying in England, "entertained a champagne-loaded party at the Ascot races in a coach surmounted by an emu-emblazoned flag, to the enormous discomposure of English friends"; while the fame of Y's library was measured by the fact that it was "reputed to weigh over four tons".

[...]emembering John Masefield

[...]ore than a fragmentary record [...] close family friendship which [...]nds over a period of more [...] fifty years; it is a notebook [...]ute observation blended with [...]iant and original Masefield [...]ials. Corliss Lamont's direct [...]ively style lends itself well [...]is presentation, and for those [...] love poetry and respect [...]field's unique place in twen[...]-century literature *Remem[...] John Masefield* is a [...]sary acquisition."

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On the Susso

G. C. BOLTON:

A Fine Country to Starve In

278pp. University of Western Australia Press. $9.60.

We're on the Susso now,
We work behind the plough,
We live in a tent,
We pay no rent,
We're on the Susso now.

In the 1930s Melbourne schoolchildren grew up chanting this (to them) cheerful folk song—"Susso" being the state government sustenance available to the unemployed throughout Australia under varying conditions during the Depression. Though worldwide, the Depression in Australia was very severe, as Boris Schedvin has demonstrated—worse probably than in Britain or the United States, if not Germany. But Australian historians have only recently begun to revisit and reassess these harrowing years, and G. C. Bolton makes a highly attractive and useful contribution to their rediscovery in this study of his home state of Western Australia.

The best chapter is "The Anatomy of Hardship", in which the recollections of survivors of those now distant days bring vividly back to life the ordeals, humiliations and exasperations of the poor and unemployed, many of them British migrants lured to a state whose appeal still rested largely on the goldrushes of the 1890s, and which celebrated its centenary in 1929—three weeks before the collapse of the New York stock market. Such traumatic experiences helped to mould the political attitudes of at least one future Australian Prime Minister (John Curtin) and, less directly, the present President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, not to mention Harold Wilson's Western Australian uncle. Ironically, in those years the pestiferous rabbit—"underground mutton"—provided valuable nourishment for wandering unemployed and bankrupt farmers; they were better off in such respects than their counterparts in Britain. (The Australians showed their gratitude two decades later with myxomatosis.) But when a plague of emus threatened the 1932 wheat harvest, the Army was promptly called in to machine-gun them down at the "battle" of Lake Campion.

Western Australia is still, with the Nullabor Plain an ocean of desert sealing it from the more populous East, one of the most isolated English-speaking communities in the world. In 1929 this isolation made it easy for the "sandgropers" to be totally unprepared for disaster (though warned by Professor Shann at Perth's university) and, when it came, to blame it on the Eastern states and the federal government. (The editor of the Perth *Sunday Times*, however, thought the whole thing a Bolshevik plot!) But though the unemployed (and even the farmers) occasionally demonstrated, their militant leaders were usually migrants from Britain or the eastern states. The more impressive fact is the barely ruffled resignation with which the bewildered community put up with the rigours of sudden adversity. Though a large majority of Western Australians were sufficiently exasperated to vote for secession from the Australian Commonwealth in 1933, they at the same time voted out of office "Moo-cow" Mitchell, the conservative Premier who had championed that cause, and voted in the Labour Party which had not.

There is a mystery here, comparable with the humiliating defeat of Hughes's federal conscription referendum in 1917 when the electorate also returned him as non-Labour Prime Minister. Professor Bolton does not entirely dispel this mystery, but he trenchantly clarifies the social contours of the Depression out West. His versatility and prolificity are already spectacular, with a book on the Irish Act of Union, a history of North Queensland, two biographies and last year a short history of *Britain's Legacy Overseas*. If that book displays his synoptic and generalizing abilities, this one by contrast shows a facility for intensive local history (if a state almost a million square miles in area can be so described), and his emotions are naturally more engaged here than they were in North Queensland.

If the book has a fault it is less the highly selective use of source material than the failure to set the state experience more clearly in the context of Australia—and the world beyond. "Western Australians", he notes, "were not in the habit of comparing their difficulties with those of other parts of the Commonwealth." That does not excuse their historian from doing so more than occasionally. Admittedly secondary sources for the other states are scant, but enough material could have been gleaned to make some tentative generalizations in this direction. And, since a substantial proportion of the population had some first-hand memories of the abhorrent British Poor Law, some comparison with unemployment and other relief "at home" would have been to the point. Such perspectives might have been more helpful than racing the reader through to the iron-ore boom of the 1960s at the end. But this does not pretend to be a definitive or exhaustive study, even of Western Australia, and it certainly provides a stimulating model for work on the Depression in the other states.

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TIMES PAST THE TIMES

T·L·S

73rd Year 15 February 1974 No. 3,754

Viewpoint

BY A. N. L. MUNBY

I AM AN AMATEUR librarian without professional qualification and have been blessed with a governing body which regards research and the writing of books as a perfectly respectable way for a librarian to spend part of his time. The college libraries of the older universities are odd institutions: their staffs are invariably small, considering their size and the range of their activities, for, as well as catering for student needs, and for many subjects at research level, most of them have inherited special collections, some of international importance, which bring a long series of visiting scholars to work in them. At King's College, Cambridge, we receive about 200 a year, some for extended visits: and this general contribution to higher learning by the colleges is often overlooked. The acquisition of research materials and their arrangement and listing for the benefit of scholars has taken much of my time, and there is a peculiar satisfaction in bringing appropriate information to the notice of a scholar who needs it. Indeed, the little vanities induced by one's role as a universal directror of studies need watching.

Occasionally, also, patience is required, when, for example, a young scholar announces with fanfares a "discovery" which has been known to you for a quarter of a century, and indeed to anyone who has taken the trouble to consult your library's catalogue. But a librarian must not monopolize his own institution's collections. Years ago I recall that a pupil of mine, in reply to a request to see certain manuscript material, received a refusal on the grounds that the librarian had reserved the papers for his own research, a sad blot on the reputation of a profession whose purpose is to serve others.

Apart from Lord Keynes's library, which arrived as I became librarian of King's, the most important accessions during my tenure of office have been large groups of twentieth-century literary papers. These are not central to my own interests, which are mainly concerned with the history of connoisseurship before 1870: but I have sought modern literary archives with some energy *faute de mieux*, because few British institutions seemed to be concerned to acquire them. I am, by the way, a warm admirer of the achievement of the Humanities Research Center at Austin, Texas, but many years ago I became uneasy lest all twentieth-century literary research might have to be carried on in the Lone Star State.

King's already possessed the manuscripts of its former Fellow, Rupert Brooke, and to these have been added the papers of Goldsworthy Lowes Dickinson, C. R. Ashbee, the personal papers of J. M. Keynes, the magnificent group of T. S. Eliot manuscripts left to King's by John Hayward, the splendid "Bloomsbury" archive, deposited by Professor Quentin Bell, known as the Charleston Papers, and, most recently, the papers of E. M. Forster. Research into "Bloomsbury" is a growth industry. I am myself just the wrong age to take it very seriously, having known some of its later members, whose conversation I have relished and whose friendship I have enjoyed; yet I hope I may be forgiven if I say that I find it hard work to regard several of them as credible PhD material. The custody of the papers of living or recently deceased people continually poses problems of copyright, invasion of privacy, reservation of materials, competing biographers and other delicate matters which keep one alert. Experience, however, has taught me one axiom: that the librarian, in whose charge the manuscripts are, should never also be the literary trustee or executor whose duty it is to pronounce on access, permission to publish, and so on. Ideally, the librarian should produce all things to all inquirers, however great a bash they are likely to make of them; and the tricky and necessary decisions that Professor X is a flyer and can publish everything, whereas Professor Y is a dud and ought to use nothing, while Professor Z is a borderline case and can use non-controversial papers, should certainly be taken outside the library.

I am a fanatical seeker-out of other libraries, especially the less familiar variety, and I have a missionary urge to bring back into useful life ancient collections which temporarily have lost their purpose. All over England such libraries still survive—libraries of parishes and cathedrals, of literary and philosophical societies and mechanics' institutes, of schools and of country houses. An increasing number are at risk, and institutions are consigning their older books to the auction room at an alarming pace. It can indeed be argued that by this means they are being put into circulation again: and yet libraries are organisms and their growth represents layers of culture, often spanning centuries. A far better course seems to me to bring more of them under the protection of some thriving institution which needs their resources. Some such links have been very fruitful. The cathedral libraries of York, Durham, Norwich and Exeter are connected with their local universities, as are the National Trust libraries at Waddesdon and Blickling: and this is a tendency to which more time, thought and money must be devoted in the immediate future.

* * * *

So addicted a lover of learned libraries as myself could not fail to be pleased and flattered to become a Trustee of the British Museum, an institution which I revere, the Library of which I have used as a reader all my life, and on whose staff I number many friends. It has been a privilege to have one's views sought on accessions, to seek benefactions for it, and to help to direct its policy. When I joined the Trustees all was set fair for the new Library building, which is twenty-five years overdue. Whatever devoted personnel can achieve in every inch of space which ingenuity can devise is being done in the present building under conditions which impose stresses on both staff and readers. It is idle to pretend that the Library offers now the service it would wish. Growing numbers of books are outhoused at Woolwich, with attendant delays in production, readers are turned away for lack of space, and it is difficult to envisage any dramatic improvements on the present site. Yet in many respects the institution is still pre-eminent, not least in the scholarly standards of its catalogues, which are the envy of the learned world, and which must be maintained. The institution of the British Library, following the Dainton Report, provides an opportunity to restore the Reference Division of the British Library, as we must now call the BM Library, to its pinnacle at the apex of the library system of the country, and to rehouse it worthily along with the National Reference Library of Science and Invention, now divided in four buildings between Chancery Lane and Bayswater.

The British Library Board, on which I serve as the representative of the British Museum Trustees has of course many other functions than running a reference library. Its Lending Division at Boston Spa already leads the world; and we have high hopes of the British Library's bibliographic services and the revolution which the full application of the computer's aid will bring in a year or two's time. This co-ordination of the nation's library resources is not cheap, and the provision of the essential new reference library is undeniably expensive. Yet it is important to keep the order of expenditure in scale. The British Library has been hoaxed with Concorde and Maplin as projects which economic stringencies should bring to a halt. It is therefore worth stressing that the British Library's present cost represents one month's expenditure on Concorde spread over ten years. It is right, when the educational programme is facing swingeing cuts, that Government expenditure of this order should be closely scrutinized: but I believe that a decline in our material standards should not be accompanied by the dissipation of our intellectual resources. The British Library at present presents an investment which we cannot afford to see run down; and every year's delay in the rehousing of its Reference Division will have dire effects on its efficiency and on higher learning at large.

And, finally, a word on the matter of the new Library's site. I am one of two external librarians on the British Library Board and it is my duty to urge the Library viewpoint. I hope that no readers of this journal need argument to convince them that the nation's reference books need be in the capital at all, and that they accept the Dainton Committee's insistence that central London is the British Library's proper site. Let us hear no more of bright ideas such as Mill... My own conviction is ... interests both of ... Museum and the Britis... will be best served by ... the Bloomsbury site, des... the library by succes... ments for twenty-five ... perhaps since 1909, as a... dent in *The Times* recen... out). There is indeed no ... a building on it who has ... for years of this intention ... little rash of hostile pos... by the symbol of "cre... worms", which one pre... not addressed to readers ... *TLS*, whose powerful ... much to make the ... Government reverse its ... abandon Bloomsbury. Th... tions of the two institu... divided on the assumption ... contiguity, and, if they ... side, the King's Library, ... British Museum, one of ... library interiors in the ... retain its original function.

It is my hope that the ... Library will mount exhibi... trating the history of ... tual development and the ... cation of his ideas, ... school-child in the ... visit, and which will be ... complemented by the Mus... cent exhibitions. I do ... least regard the ... National Reference Li... matter confined to "the ... lence of a few scholars" ... been suggested; nor do I ... a "mausoleum", but as a ... tual nerve centre. But ... subjective view which ... what one feels about ... who say that the site is ... romantic Mountmartre ... be familiar with the ... hood; nor can anyone ... ate what great efforts ... made in the new plans ... objections put forward ... inquiry. The proportion ... ings, shops, public houses ... conduits now proposed ... to create an area in ... whose trade is associ... books can still flourish: ... mont's splendid church ... of which was ruined by ... ruins, will once again be ... its true glory.

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Alexander attacks Persian horsemen at Issus: from the 'Alexander Sarcophagus', c 320 BC.

The context of a conqueror

AND THE non-stop flow of mutually recriminatory books and articles on Alexander the Great, Robin Lane Fox's massive study stands out like a Rock of Aornus: one may not like it, but one cannot avoid it. Here is the most sheerly original contribution to the subject since 1833 when J. G. Droysen published his epoch-making *Geschichte Alexanders des Grossen*. It is important to get this central fact clear right away since Mr Lane Fox's arrogance, flip style and throwaway dogmatism (in evidence from the first page—he alienate even his greatest potential admirers. The long list of acknowledged errata (to which one can add a promising new crop) may well be held at the door of Mr Lane Fox's publisher, anxious, for whatever reason, to get this book out as early as possible; the thumping (and sometimes coat-trailing) generalizations are clearly the author's own and Alexander's personality is probably his most unusual contribution to "history" in the elephant "was history"? Unusual? Boring?

What can be made of a twenty-seven-year-old historian who, on his own account, is bored by institutions does not believe in structures, and (to old man's meanness" (apropos Alexander's tutor Leonnatus, an anecdote capable of more than one interpretation)? Who is pulling whose leg when Mr Lane Fox writes that

> '1,472 books and articles are known to me on the subject in the past century and a half, *many of which adopt a confident tone and can be dismissed for that alone*' (our italics), or, of Tarn, that "as thirty-five of the thirty-six [appendixes] are persistently mistaken both in method and evidence, the work has been ignored (not entirely true) throughout the writing of this book"?

Such paradoxical fireworks may act as a powerful deterrent to readers who prefer their historians to eschew aggressive exhibitionism (however engaging) to refrain from flip generalizations (however witty), and to resist the deflating comic anecdote—as here, apropos the Lion of Ecbatana (Hamadan), erected as a memorial to Alexander's lover Hephaistion: "Centuries later, when Hephaistion had long been forgotten, the ladies of Hamadan would smear the nose of their lion with lamb, hoping for children and easy childbirth. Hephaistion had ended his fame as a symbol of fertility." Who else would have known about the jam, or would have reported it? One hears a small, ghostly voice say ing to the author: "Why, oh why Uncle Robin, will you not always be wholly serious?"

The answer, of course, is that Mr ane Fox emerges as *an original sans copie*, whose more irritating eccentricities should be suffered gladly for the sake of his formidable scholarship, trenchant common sense, and restlessly civilized mind. His particular brand of ironanticism (which admits a weakness for T. E. Lawrence) is, to be sure, dangerous in an Alexander-historian, and at times clouds his judgment: but he offsets it with an Augustan intellect, and many eighteenth-century views, as when he observes, among other *obiter dicta*, that "except for a love of gardens there is no finer test of a civilised man than his taste for painting".

Mr Lane Fox's *Alexander the Great* is (except for Tarn's two-volume work, which consisted largely of excursuses) the longest, most detailed, and most fully documented study of the Macedonian conqueror to be published within living memory. His erudition is wide-ranging, his judgment sharp—and frequently caustic. Typically, however, despite an ultra-Chalcenteric familiarity with modern classical and Oriental research, he asserts that, "apart from Arrian, Curtius, Plutarch, Justin and Diodorus, there are only two necessary books for Alexander scholarship"—the relevant volumes of Jacoby's *Fragmente der Griechischen Historiker*, and Berve's *Das Alexanderreich auf prosopographische Grundlage*. What he is saying (as any fellow-worker, discounting the paradox, will see at once) is: Go back to the sources, quit polemics, "make up [your] own minds and cut free of how others have made up theirs". In one sense he has followed his own advice: here one senses the methodological influence of G. E. M. de Ste Croix, with whom he studied ancient history.

But the statement badly underrates one of its author's own most remarkable achievements: the absorption, and critical application, of innumerable non-classical studies in key related fields. The geography and topography in particular, but also the art, architecture, town-planning, religions, philosophies, and culture of areas extending from Iran to the Khyber Pass, from the Caspian to Egypt, have been illuminated for students of Alexander as never before. Mr Lane Fox has ransacked literally hundreds of obscure specialist sources in many languages (including Russian—e.g. the new work on Chorasmia, now Khwarezm) to produce a clear, authoritative *vue d'ensemble* which profoundly modifies our understanding of the Eastern conquests. He is excellent on military organization, especially siegecraft and weaponry (though 400 yards seems optimistic as the killing range of a Persian bow); and—naturally for one who moonlights as the *Financial Times*'s gardening correspondent when not otherwise engaged as a Fellow of Magdalen—never misses a turn on botanical or horticultural matters. He is sketchiest, perhaps, when dealing with diplomacy or administration, subjects which he by-passes whenever possible; and, though he shows himself well aware of the vast difficulties inherent in Alexander's logistics and financial arrangements, he fails to explore either as far as the evidence will allow. But then he finds the numismatics of the period tedious, and (to quote yet another of his aphorisms) "boredom is the force in life which histories always omit".

How sceptical a critic is he when it comes to the major perennial problems? For so sharp a wit, it is surprising what, on occasion, he *will* believe, not least in the field of sex, always somewhat thorny where Alexander is concerned. Tarn's view—that Alexander, being virtuous as well as brilliant, there fore had as little erotic experience as might be—has since been discarded *in toto*. Mr Lane Fox accepts just about every candidate for occupation of the royal bed—Barsine, Ragoas, Hephaistion, Campaspe, even an Indian chieftain's mother: he might as well have been in Queen's Adu of Carlo while he was at it. At one point, never able to resist the telling phrase, he describes Alexander as "a man who was to sleep with at least one man, four mistresses, three wives, a eunuch, and so gossip believed, an Amazon". There is something wistful about those last words: Mr Lane Fox would dearly love to believe in the Queen of the Amazons if he could. (On the other hand he is very cavalier about Philip's liaisons, hopelessly mixing up his mistresses and his wives, and never knowing, or apparently caring, when any of them died, let alone where they lived: as a result he offers us the ludicrous spectacle of *five* assorted queens—not counting Olympias—all in Pella together, and all watching Philip's perilous courtship of Cleopatra-Eurydice with bland nail-buffing indifference.) Finally, what, except a weakness for Botticelli and Sodoma—and, presumably, for the gossip he elsewhere dismisses in short order—makes him so sure Alexander was passionately in love with Roxane? It is at least as arguable that the king here simply took a leaf out of his father's book, marrying the local baron's daughter to help hold down a difficult and dangerous province.

On character Mr Lane Fox scores brilliantly. He isolates with more than common skill and sensitivity the true significance (and many hitherto unnoticed symptoms) of the Homeric-Achillean element in Alexander's make-up, the self-projected myth which, as he says, offers us a direct clue to his mind. What about Philip's death? Mr Lane Fox will have no truck with trendy theories about the out-kingdom princes, but points the finger (like his ancient sources) at Olympias. On the other hand he cautiously anticipates Alexander, on the grounds that it was "an absurdly clumsy moment". Perhaps: but the expedition was about to set out under Philip: it was then or never. (On much the same grounds he argues that Alexander's three-day collapse after the murder of Cleitus was genuine: play-acting would have invited assassination.) Callisthenes gets rapped over the knuckles for supposing that Aeschylus composed his plays while drunk (what price



Alexander (left) at the lion hunt at Sidon in 333 BC. mosaic from Pella, c 300 BC.

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Eugene O'Neill ?), and, apropos *proskynesis* (Oriental prostration), is credited with "a narrowly Greek outlook" which stopped him "from seeing what was appropriate"—an argument frequently used by men like Haldeman and Ehrlichman against weaker brethren with old-fashioned qualms about compromising principles. Mr Lane Fox finds the idea that Cleitus, say, or the Royal Pages, could have opposed Alexander from a mere love of Greek freedom, or "a hatred of diadems and Persian ushers", frankly incredible. Others may differ.

On the Granicus, he joins that growing band which accepts Diodorus (night crossing, morning battle) against the Ptolemy-Aristobulus vulgate (afternoon assault through the river). For him, the popular story of the burning of Persepolis is true: Thais was Ptolemy's mistress, Ptolemy censored her — and Alexander's — involvement. Two cheers for Dryden. Philotas was probably innocent of conspiracy, though suspicious in his behaviour: as his father Parmenio had 20,000 men and the royal treasures to hand, Alexander struck first, before they could rebel, afterwards naming Farah *Prophthasia* ("anticipation") to commemorate the fact. As likely an explanation as any. No, says Mr Lane Fox, Alexander did not *demand* deification, but many Greek cities offered it to him naturally — "his worship was spontaneous and scattered, a hopeful flattery where it was not genuine admiration". Some will feel tempted to protest over this one, but the evidence is sadly to seek. No again, the king's death was caused neither by poison nor by alcoholism, but was the result of his Indian lung-wound (if the arrow did, in fact, pierce the lung) compounded with some disease, probably malaria. Likely again, but non-proven.

It is impossible, in a non-technical review, to convey the richness, excitement, variety and scope of Mr Lane Fox's scholarship: even to disagree with him is stimulating. One may single out his penetrating analysis of the sources for Alexander's last days, his sympathetic approach to telling minutiae of Persian culture (he has studied Cardascia's *Les Archives des Murasu*, among other key works generally ignored by classicists, to excellent purpose), his sensitive feeling for landscape and topography (it would be interesting to know how much of the terrain he has covered himself: some very remote regions show signs of autopsy), his emphasis on the fact that Alexander's policy of racial integration was based (like so many of the King's supposed innovations: others derived from Philip) on existing Persian practice, his expertise over such ancillary topics as elephants or rare herbs. This book bids fair to become an indispensable *Handbuch*, to be reviled, raided, argued with, plagiarized, developed, modified—but always, like Droysen, *there*. It is no mean feat to have changed the face of Alexander scholarship while still under thirty. Not that all Mr Lane Fox's colleagues in the field will publicly admit, much less appreciate, this unpalatable fact. He is likely to collect a few hefty brickbats, the most spectacular—if some of his especially scathing notes are anything to go by—being flung from across the Atlantic. Not that this is likely to perturb Mr Lane Fox overmuch: God help the scholar who tangles with him unprepared.

In view of this, and of the fact that his book should both go into a second edition and achieve paperback publication, one or two minor niggles may conveniently be ventilated. It is doubtful whether Aeschines 1.168 can bear the homosexual implications here attributed to it. It is certainly not true that "unfavourable days" were unknown at Delphi until Roman times: consultation was allowed to begin with only *once a year*, on the 7th of the Delphic month Bysios (= February); monthly consultations probably began c 590 BC, at the end of the First Sacred War. Did Alexander's lackadaisical Greek allies *really* burn to revenge the sacrileges committed by Xerxes during the Persian Wars? It seems most unlikely. Isocrates, for one, makes it quite clear that their main objective was easy loot: if they had a sense of grievance, it probably went back no further than the King's Peace of 387. If, as is claimed, the Persian military machine was too busy in Egypt to block the Dardanelles crossing, then how did Arsites and his colleagues so soon raise an army at Zeleia which included units from Hyrcania and Bactria?

Mr Lane Fox also underestimates the significance of what happened at Gordium; his personal guess that Harpalus was a spy has already been anticipated in print; the idea that Mazaeus was bribed in advance to throw away the battle of Gaugamela (presumably by bilingual shouting across the Euphrates) is very far-fetched indeed. Darius's knowledge of Greek—denied by Mr Lane Fox—is by no means implausible, and clearly implied during his confrontation with Charidemus, not cited in this context. Recent excavations suggest that Maracanda and Samarkand may not, after all, be identical: perhaps this explains the author's uncharacteristic topographical reticence over the site.

Mr Lane Fox offers no clear explanation to account for Alexander's long delay at Persepolis in early 330. Black Cleitus, old and still convalescent at the time of his appointment to the satrapy of Bactria, need not have seen the post—which he accepted—as an insulting demotion. indeed it seems likely that … which occasioned his death … in his honour, the day before … scheduled to leave. The … of the Indian mercenaries … saga is misrepresented in a … away paragraph worthy of … his most slippery, while the … based on some idle talk by … gupta that the … could easily have advanced … Beas to the Eastern Ocean … months betrays pure romantic … ful thinking. Why, lastly, … "no reason to suppose" … Alexander had read Scy… Caryanda? Surely his … along with Herodotus, Cte… the all too few other existing books germane to Alexander's purpose, must have been well … by the King himself, and … by his intelligence officers before the expedition … forth?

These, and other, points … in any substantial way detract … what is undoubtedly one of the … brilliant, stimulating, original, quirky, and wayward, and … ing) essays in Greek historio… to have appeared for many … Mr de Ste Croix, who, on the … ence of his *Origins of the P… nesian War*, can not only, … White Queen, believe six im… things before breakfast but … clarify counsel in the process … turned out a more than app…

To the Editor

Shakespeare's 'Friend'

Sir,—No one could accuse Lady Chatterley's former champion of stuffiness. Helen Gardner (February 1) rightly rebukes levity in interpretation: not, surely, because it might devalue so noble a text as Milton's "On His Blindness", about which her arguments are both salutary and judicious, but because it rebounds on the interpreter's head and leads to an irrelevancy unbecoming to good criticism.

For what she implies should be a precept of the first importance to the critic: his tone should be congruous with his subject. I think she would agree that undue decorousness in the discussion of Shakespeare's sonnets is to be deprecated because they so frequently challenge any notion of decorum. But I would not, I hope, strain to find country matters in the great and grave rhetoric of 116 for instance—"Let me not to the marriage of true minds . . .".

I am not, in fact, disposed to fall down in worship before every Shakespearian equivoque or innuendo; I think on the contrary that this fashion which Shakespeare pursued with such delight can set his style further off from us, and sometimes even his characters. For example, there seems little doubt that when the jealous Othello closes his fine valediction to the assurance and achievements of his lost career with the phrase, "Othello's occupation's gone!", the pun refers to his sexual possession of Desdemona as well as to his warrior status. But only the most rancorous detractor of his personality would accuse Othello here of either deliberate or inadvertent vulgarity. The fault is Shakespeare's, and it is he who has written, and not Othello who has spoken, something quite out of keeping. (It is scarcely possible that we are reading the sense into an innocent text—can we imagine *Shakespeare* punning inadvertently?) Conversely, however, a quibble on the right lips can achieve an admirable economy of the ribald. Thus Cleopatra urges herself to hasten after her dead handmaid Iras because

> If she first meet the curled Antony
> He'll make demand of her, and spend that kiss
> Which is my heaven to have.

"Spend" shows that a mere kiss is not the contingency which the Queen fears.

I certainly find that the wry joke evidently elaborated in these sonnets does bring them closer to us, by making them both funnier and more moving. And I do not see how (to take one instance)—

> To win me soon to hell, my female evil
> Tempteth my better angel from my side

—can seriously be taken to refer to some definite friend of the poet, rather than a kind of fantasy friend, his own sex in masquerade. For why should the lady tempt a friend of the poet in order to win him, the poet, into her "hell"? Hell has a double meaning, it is true, and ensuing jealousy might place the poet in its traditional flames, but why in that case "to *win* me"? And, though the rest of the sonnet can be taken as a joke about knowing the friend has been to bed with the lady if he catches the pox, the elaboration involved is surely more stylish, and more in keeping with the tone of these sonnets, if we take it as the poet's trench-humour about his own situation.

JOHN BAYLEY.

Oxford.

John Cowper Powys

Sir,—Anyone involved, over the past two decades, in the struggle to obtain recognition for the stature of John Cowper Powys, in the struggle to get his works back into print and to elicit critical attention to them, will have been heartened by your front-page assessment (February 8). We have, indeed, come a long, hard way when it is possible for your reviewer to suggest unforced comparison between the *best* of Powys (the qualification is always vital) and the works of Shakespeare and Dostoevsky.

Shortly before J.C.P.'s ninetieth birthday, I approached his own college, Corpus Christi, in the hope that some mark of honour or celebration might be forthcoming. The response was one of academic condescension at its finest. It led, however, to the foundation of a John Cowper Powys Archive at Churchill College. Our collection of first editions, press-cuttings (covering Powys's American years) and manuscript material is a significant one and will, we hope, expand. The college has been host to a conference of Powys scholars from this country, Continental Europe (where Powys's genius has long been recognized) and the United States. American and Canadian academics pursuing textual or critical studies of Powys have been given access to the material and made guests of the college.

John Cowper Powys does, therefore, have a home in his own university, and in a landscape of which the *Autobiography* gives so haunting a reflection.

GEORGE STEINER.

Churchill College, Cambridge CB3 0DS.

Modern Economics

Sir,—Your reviewer of Joan Robinson's and John Eatwell's *An Introduction to Modern Economics* and of the former's *Collected Essays* (January 18) uses his considerable space not to provide any clear and precise account of any significant arguments the books contain, but for (among other highly dubious purposes) an incoherent attack on virtually all economics teaching, apparently, throughout the world, except for such rarefied areas as "Cambridge, Oxford and Adelaide".

As part of the benighted "rump", unable to discern the shining new light shared by Mr Heath and Dr Sraffa (so surrealistically linked by your reviewer), may I, after his columns of roses and raptures, crave a little space to point out one particular, precise reason why, perhaps, the Robinson-Eatwell textbook should, to put it mildly, be treated with some reserve?

While summarizing very briefly several hundred years of the history of economics, the authors, *à propos* of nothing in particular, find space to introduce (page 28) the following rather succulent anti-American quotation from J. S. Mill, to the effect that despite many favourable circumstances in America, "all that these advantages seem to have done for them is that the life of the whole of one sex is devoted to dollar-hunting, and of the other to breeding dollar-hunters".

Naturally, it is completely concealed from Professor Robinson's and Mr Eatwell's beginner audience that (1) this sentence only appeared in the first (1848) edition of Mill's *Principles*; (2) was considerably qualified in the second (1849); and (3) was completely removed by Mill in the 1865 and subsequent editions. In the edition which they profess to be using, the sentence produced by the authors only appears in quotations in a footnote, in brackets, by the editor. In the actual text the following glowingly pro-American statement appears regarding the competitive society:

> It is an incident of growth, not a mark of decline, for it is not necessarily destructive of the higher aspirations and the heroic virtues; as America in her great civil war has proved to the world, both by her conduct as a people and by numerous splendid individual examples. (*Principles of Political Economy*, edited by W. J. Ashley, 1909, p 748, Book IV, VI 2.)

Needless to say, not a word of such sentiments could possibly be permitted to reach Professor Robinson's and Mr Eatwell's beginner audience.

I don't know if the mentality and methods displayed in this little piece of political manipulation are typical of the way in which the blessed students of Adelaide, Cambridge and Oxford, so exclusively privileged according to your reviewer, are introduced to the writings of the classics. But a study of the account given in this textbook of the history of economics in the past one hundred years reveals similar methods of distortion at work (especially pages 31-51). Moreover, this version of the recent history of the subject not only provides the starting-point and much of the alleged *raison d'être* for this text book, it comprises almost the only substantial, non-ideological, empirical element in the whole rather bogus conceptual and verbal "controversy" to which it is so questionable a contribution.

T. W. HUTCHISON.

Department of Economics, University of Birmingham.

English Woodcuts

Sir,—Your reviewer of the augmented reprint of Edward Hodnett's *English Woodcuts 1480-1535* (February 1) attributes a degree of "artlessness" among the illustrations which are the subject of the book in part to the lack of a "Lutzelburger" among the wood-cutters and of a Holbein to draw for them. Lutzelburger (or rather Lützelburger) is certainly an absentee from English book-illustration, but to plead a lack of designs by Holbein, though literally true for Mr Hodnett's chosen limits of date and place, gives something of a false impression. Holbein designs do exist in English books of the sixteenth century. As early as 1518 Pynson used a title-page border containing Holbein's initials, but it is a London copy from the Holbein original used by Froben from 1516. The earliest English original by Holbein is the title-page border of the first edition of Coverdale's English Bible, completed in October 1535, but printed abroad, probably at Marburg: the block was several times afterwards used by London printers. Several other blocks were designed … him for English books, but … Mr Hodnett's cut-off date … Details were published by C… Dodgson in the Walpole S… twenty-seventh volume (193…) considerably amplifying inform… McKerrow's *Devices* (1913) … McKerrow and Ferguson's *T… borders* (1932), both issued by … Bibliographical Society, which … to be given credit for … Mr Hodnett's valuable volume … unaccountably not mentioned … review.

BERNARD B…

York, Minster Library, … Park, York.

* Our reviewer writes:— … rash to invoke those two … great artist and great craftsman … attempting to mitigate Edward … nett's adjective of "artless" … applied to early English … Mr Barr's reference to … copy of a border design by … II shows that English printers … trying, and makes one wish … had been possible to include … designs in Hodnett.

'Man and Superman'

Sir,—Encouraged by Jane … mond's article (A Missing … Speech in "Man and Superman" … your issue of January 18, may … attention to a misprint in the … dard Edition of Shaw's works … has been perpetuated in the … Head Edition of 1971? This … in *Man and Superman* but in … Epistle Dedicatory: on page … (Standard) and 494 (Bodley …) read "The question is, will … be disappointed with a Don Juan … in which not one of that hero's … era adventures is brought on … stage." The reference is … "Catalogue Aria" in Mozart … Ponte's *Don Giovanni* where … rello tells Donna Elvira of his … ter's conquests, culminating in … e tre (a thousand and three) … Spain. "Ma in Ispagna son già … e tre."

This silly mistake has endured … long a life. *It cannot be Shaw's* … he had an opera-lover's … of Italian, like …

ROBERTSON DA…

Massey College, in the Univ… of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Catharine Beecher

Sir,—I would like to add … note, of interest to your … of Kathryn Kish Sklar's *Ca… Beecher* (January 25) and … to your readers.

While Miss Beecher was … tily a difficult lady, her ideas … ducation for women were … and proved fruitful—in the … others and a half-century … proposed them. These ideas … sated from Cincinnati … reviewer points out, prompted … Parsons, the founder (in 18…) … Principal of the Milwaukee … Seminary, to offer her school … as a testing ground for the … …an. In 1851 the Seminary was expanded to include primary high, and normal schools; eventually it was called the Milwaukee College. A complex and somewhat stormy period followed, during most of which Miss Beecher (who never taught at the school and saw it only on a few brief visits) was the chief impediment to the fruition of the ideas she so forcefully propounded.

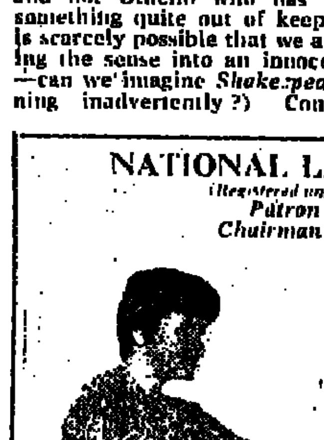
It was not until 1897, when Milwaukee College merged with Downer College (which had been founded in 1855 as the Wisconsin Female College) and became Milwaukee-Downer College, that the ideas of Miss Beecher—two decades after her death—were really put into action, and even then they were modern. Essentially the Beecher Plan called for a non-denominational college at which women would be given an education, in subjects for which they were suited, comparable in depth and quality to that in parallel subjects in the best men's colleges. Two remarkable women presidents, Ellen C. Sabin and Lucia R. Briggs, interpreted these goals in innovative programmes (notably Home Economics and Occupational Therapy) that put Milwaukee-Downer College into the educational avant-garde. My first college position was at Milwaukee-Downer College (1950-54), and the uncompromising standards and integrity of that institution were still touched very much in Miss Beecher's terms and her name still was associated with them. It was the commitment to the equal potential of women for excellence, whatever they …, that was Miss Beecher's thrust; the concept of what women might do had already expanded, of course, and is still expanding. But without that initial commitment, in which Miss Beecher was so far ahead of her time, much of the accomplishment so vital to women today would have been impossible.

For the record, Milwaukee-Downer College did not merge (as your reviewer states) with the University of Wisconsin: although the lovely forty-three-acre campus became the property of the University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee, Milwaukee-Downer College merged with Lawrence University (in 1964, I believe), in Appleton, Wisconsin, 100-odd miles to the north. Those of us who knew the demanding but invigorating educational life at Milwaukee-Downer College realize what a loss American education suffered with the closing of that school.

EDITH BORROFF.

Professor of Music, State University of New York at Binghamton, New York 13901, USA.

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'The Necessity of Being'

Sir,—It is not customary to cavil or complain about literary reviews, however hostile they may be, but the numerous readers who trust the high standing of the *TLS* for its assessment of books have the right to be told when a book has been misrepresented through distortions of facts and unfounded assertions. Such is the case with my book *The Necessity of Being*, reviewed in your issue of December 14, 1973.

Pace your reviewer's condescending avowals of embarrassment and the shame he heaps on my head. He certainly ought to find cause for both if he really cares to examine the tone and texture of his piece of writing.

Now to facts. The first sentence of my introduction reads: "Until very recently philosophy has constantly tried to deal with questions about the origins and the why of things, the meaning and purpose of life and of the universe, and about the ultimate nature of goodness, truth and being." Later in the same paragraph I state: "Both Christian and Heideggerian existentialism are deeply concerned with the fundamental question of being. . . ." Heidegger is still alive. Marcel and Maritain have only recently died and it is perfectly clear that "until very recently" only refers to the last twenty years or so, that is to say in fact to positivist, linguistic philosophy, and not to "the whole of twentieth-century philosophical thought", as your reviewer states.

Now let us take your reviewer's two crucial quotations and see what use he makes of them. First, he quotes me as saying: "Either Being is necessary, or it cannot be accounted for. Why Being instead of Non-Being?" What comes immediately after that and what he does not quote, is: "That is the question. . . . We know that the question cannot be answered, for finite being cannot encompass Being. . . . The great fact confronting us is that Being is, therefore there must be reasons and causes for it, and these reasons and causes cannot but be—are bound to be—part of Being itself. . . ." I clearly say that the question: "Why Being?" cannot be answered, I only say that Being must have causes. Yet the reviewer makes me say that the question "Why Being?" "*must* have an answer".

Secondly, we have the quotation about society taken from page 15. The full sentence is as follows: "Society is a whole, and history itself is also a whole, and as a manifestation of life, it is—in spite of its dark patches, its moments of madness, its evil, its apparent or partial irrationality—rational, because it cannot be otherwise." The reviewer leaves out the vital part between dashes, and thus turns a perfectly Hegelian or Augustinian form of conclusion into nonsense.

Now, take your reviewer's sentence: "In the last chapter, Dr Chiari invokes Kant, of whom he is a great admirer, to help him show that knowledge is not objective, but must be imaginative." I should not dream of making such an absurd statement. I specifically say (page 140): "There are two main types of knowledge — empirical knowledge, based on the understanding and the senses, and intuitive or imaginative knowledge which includes aesthetics and religion." One of the contentions of my book is that knowledge must not be confined to "one-eyed reason", but must involve the whole of reason, which includes imagination.

J. CHIARI.

Domaine de Riquebonne C4, 06220 Vallauris, France.

* Our reviewer writes:—I apologize for not quoting the passages in full. I agree that the question posed in the first quotation should not be taken as intended to be answerable. But it was really its *intelligibility* that I was questioning. Secondly, the quotation about society certainly has a history, but is not therefore the more easily intelligible. Thirdly, on Kant, I doubtless misrepresented his view. But the view he claims to hold is still extremely remote from Kant so he is unwise to involve Kant as a prop to it.

Henry James

Sir,—The reviewer of *The Tales of Henry James* (January 11) asks: "Why has the Center for Editions of American Authors of the Modern Language Association of America not drawn James into its net, with all his textual complexities . . . ?" The answer is that a James edition has not been proposed to the CEAA, which does not commission editions. The CEAA would be most receptive to a definitive edition of Henry James.

MATTHEW J. BRUCCOLI.

Center for Editions of American Authors, Modern Language Association of America, Department of English, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina 29208, USA.

Agents' Association

Sir,—David Higham Associates have also decided not to become members of the proposed association of authors' agents. Our reasons are fundamentally the same as those put forward by Graham Watson (February 1) on behalf of Curtis Brown. We feel as strongly as he does that an agents' association will find itself confronting other trade associations on matters which should be the subject of individual negotiation on our authors' behalf. We have in mind in particular the tendency of the Publishers Association to lay down what amount to rules for its members which often preclude them from agreeing to terms and conditions which in the case in point they often personally agree are fair.

We also entertain doubts about what will qualify an agency for membership and the effect of a refusal on both the aspiring member and the association itself.

DAVID HIGHAM.

David Higham Associates Ltd, 5-8 Lower John Street, Golden Square, London W1R 4HA.

Lord Acton's Chair

Sir,—There may have been another reason why Gladstone did not warm to Acton's getting the chair (February 8). Writing of an earlier appointment, Lady Charlotte Blennerhassett, who was a confidante of Acton, said in her obituary of him: "Mr. Gladstone remained of opinion that the intention of those who had founded the Regius Professorship excluded the nomination of a Roman Catholic. Consequently Sir John Seeley was appointed at Cambridge, and Lord Acton was made a Lord-in-waiting" (*Edinburgh Review*, April 1903).

EDMUND CAMPION.

Downing College, Cambridge CB2 1DQ.

Roscoe collection

Sir,—In an article headed "Exhibition Reports" (December 21, 1973) you state that the catalogue of MSS in the Library at Holkham Hall by William Roscoe, revised and enlarged by Sir Frederic Madden, is unpublished.

I wonder if you would be so kind as to inform your readers that the catalogue has in fact been published and is available, along with over a hundred MSS in the Library at Holkham, on 35mm microfilm, from EP Microform Ltd.

LESLEY BLOOMFIELD.

Editorial and Research Assistant, Microform Division, EP Group of Companies, Bradford Road, East Ardsley, Wakefield, Yorkshire WF3 2JN.

Commentary

…tions to the arrest of Solzhenitsyn are obvious. There is nausea at the thought of the violation of the freedom, of the privacy, of a man who, as much as anyone active in our time, represents the dignity of the individual spirit. There is disgust at the contempt of the Soviet authorities for world opinion, and sadness at their self contempt; only a social system profoundly ambivalent about its own moral and historical legitimacy would act with such brutal stupidity. There is fear over possible reprisals to Solzhenitsyn's family and to the dissenters who, in moments of the writer's trial, came openly to manifest their sympathies. There is, finally, a numbness at the triviality of the pressures which individuals in the outside world, however eminent, can bring to bear on the Soviet apparatus of power.

Yet, even as shock and anger deepen, it is impossible to arrive at the clearest possible understanding of the case. Why did the Soviet authorities move now? What has made the regime, which is on certain economic and strategic levels anxious for détente, for an improvement in its image abroad, advertise its habits of terror in this most flagrant way? The answer lies in Solzhenitsyn's most recent work, in the *Gulag Archipelago*. There are in this massive chronicle of the concentration-camp fabric of Soviet history at least four points which challenge the very foundation of the Soviet …tion.

Solzhenitsyn proclaims that the bureaucracy of repression, of controlled violations of domestic … espionage under which Soviet citizens conduct their daily lives is not a product of Stalinism. It is not a mere accident of history for which blame can be attached to the errors or neuroses of a single tyrant. The features of Soviet socialism, says Solzhenitsyn, are endemic in the philosophy and aims of Lenin. They were initiated in 1917. Stalin was the logical, thorough instrument of the Marxist-Leninist vision of total control of political opinion and private ethics. If this charge is true, there can be no reform of the Soviet state from within, no genuine "thaw". The system itself must be …shed root and branch.

Solzhenitsyn's second point follows directly. A society conceived by Lenin and ruled by Stalin … has no law. Its relations to the men and women within its borders are those of naked power and corruption. The codes under which the Soviet courts carry out their business are nothing more than decrees often arbitrary and absurd. They have no moral sanction. Hence, the refusal of Solzhenitsyn to obey the summons sent by the office of the State Prosecutor; hence also, if first reports are accurate, his refusal to answer any questions regarding his writings and personal views. Again it follows that reform is not really possible, that the amelioration in judicial procedures instituted after 1956 is only a tactical sham.

Reflecting on two generations of Soviet history, Solzhenitsyn concludes that the sum of oppression, of massacre, of genocide is greater than that achieved by the Nazis. He puts at 12 to 15 million the number of men, women and children whom the Soviet administration have done to death by means of outright killing, deportation, imprisonment and starvation. He catalogues the ethnic minorities, the regions, the specific communities which have been eradicated. He names the killers and beaters. He affirms that there may be no spiritual, no psychological salvation for Russia or its peoples until this hideous record is made manifest and public, until the names of the victims are, literally, unearthed and restored to justice.

Such resurrection extends to, indeed especially to, those whom every Soviet citizen has been taught to abhor and to identify as the embodiment of treason. The *Gulag Archipelago* dwells on the fate of General Vlasov and his army of White Russians, Ukrainians and Cossacks whom the Allies delivered into Soviet hands in 1945. Solzhenitsyn does not deny that Vlasov fought for the Germans. But he sees in this betrayal the natural consequence of Stalin's treatment of his own generals. He describes Vlasov's soldiers as young men crazed and bewildered by Stalin's policies, and he bitterly blames the United States and Great Britain for handing them back to certain death.

Whether or not one accepts Solzhenitsyn's analysis, whether or not one would wish to qualify its implacable generality, it is essential that one grasps the underlying stance. It is that of a Slavophile and moral transcendentalist, or even mystic, in the tradition of Dostoevsky and Berdyaev. There is nothing of a western democratic programme, of western enlightenment about Solzhenitsyn's position. He conceives of the historical and social process as an enactment of man's moral and metaphysical possibilities. Political violations, with resort of the state to falsehood, are breaches of contract between the human person and the realization, the "coming into being" of God. A "fog of unrighteousness" hangs over the Holy Land of Russia. It must be blown asunder, whatever the cost.

Given these axioms, and his decision to publish them to the world, Solzhenitsyn left the KGB little room for manoeuvre. He had handed to his own society an ultimatum of self-dissolution.

That his society should fully recognize the force of such an ultimatum is, perhaps, the most tragic aspect of the affair. Like no other totalitarian regime before it, the Soviet government has an acute sense of the power of the written word. Being so bookish in its sense of identity—the works of Hegel, of Marx, of Lenin are its canon—Soviet Russia knows that the poem, the novel, the philosophic tract, the historical document are incalculable weapons. A Pushkin, a Turgenev, a Tolstoy, a Mandelstam, a Solzhenitsyn form a state within a state. Theirs is the haunting alternative conscience. To arrest Solzhenitsyn is to pay an obscene homage, but homage none the less, to the genius of the human word.

This also complicates the western response. Our liberalities (so far as they reach) are often concomitant with triviality, with a sense, almost desperate, that the life of the mind hardly matters. So much of our literature, even of our philosophical arguments, is entertainment competing in the market place. At moments, we surprise ourselves envying the utter significance which a literary text, which a philosophical proposition, could assume in Russian life. This is, of course, a self-indulgent reflex. The courage, indeed, for even the slightest act of dissent under Soviet conditions is almost inconceivable to an outsider. Yet the paradox nags: what are the causal relations between oppression and great art? In what sense is Russian history a long nightmare from which incomparable voices of imagination and of hope keep waking?

Solzhenitsyn has the right to pose and to answer questions. He must now do so in exile. The very fact that the Soviet authorities have dealt with him in this way suggests that world protests can sometimes prevent the worst. Solzhenitsyn will see in his own survival a kind of defeat. But we are the better for it.

Reading for the long winter evenings

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The evolutions of Gambetta

J. P. T. BURY :

Gambetta and the Making of the Third Republic

499pp. Longman. £8.50.

In October 1872 Thiers, then the acting President of the Republic, wrote to Casimir-Périer, a future President, about Gambetta. At one moment, he said, Gambetta wishes to make his advent to power possible, and he adopts the language and the wariness of a man capable of governing. But then he fears losing his followers, so he falls back into the role of the orator, which has been imposed upon him by his party. "His evolutions are not yet finished", observed Thiers, concluding that there was little to fear from such a statesman. J. P. T. Bury quotes this letter, but while accepting that the growing orderliness and prosperity of the country justified Thiers's optimism about France, he does not tell us what he thinks about the judgment which had been passed on Gambetta.

The occasion had been an electoral tour which had included the famous speech at Grenoble, in which Gambetta said, "I foresee, I feel, I announce the coming and the presence in politics of a new social stratum which has been taking its part in politics for some eighteen months." This speech, which we are told created annoyance and alarm among many republicans, so that one spoke of it as a clap of thunder, while it caused another to say that Gambetta was an inferior politician who "floated on the surface only because he was empty", has found its way into the textbooks and has been quoted times without number. But did it form anything original, or surprising, in Gambetta's thinking or campaigning? Mr Bury tells us little about its planning or preparation and it would seem more than probable that there is little to tell, but he does show us how Gambetta had used almost exactly similar expressions in earlier statements, both in public and in private. He also shows us how, both in *La République Française* and in subsequent speeches, Gambetta denied that there was anything revolutionary in these remarks, and in a speech at Auxerre he later pointed out that he had spoken of "new strata, not classes", and praised the economic and bourgeois virtues of the "new social strata". After the by-elections of October, 1872, too, he had been largely inactive and silent.

All this points to the problem of whether the excitement about the speech should not be regarded as largely manufactured by those on the right of centre, who never despaired of driving a wedge between Gambetta and Thiers, and those to the left of centre, who periodically found it advantageous to create the image of a Gambetta who was fighting for something new and fine. But behind it there remains the even bigger question. How important was Gambetta? Even without his early death and the inevitable creation of a what-might-have-been legend, there is the feeling that after the armistice with Germany Gambetta appears as a very ordinary politician who, neither by principles nor by any particular skill, is to be distinguished from so many of his colleagues.

Mr Bury is not yet ready to pronounce on the question. Already the author of an excellent study on the role which Gambetta played in the Franco-Prussian war (which, one is astonished to see, was published as long ago as 1936), Mr Bury has written this long account of the period from 1871 to 1877 and promises us a third volume on the role which Gambetta played after the Republican victory of 1877, where he will discuss the general significance of his career. When this is completed Gambetta will have been better served than any other statesman of the Third Republic, all the more so since Mr Bury is such a careful and meticulous scholar, with a deep knowledge of the background. This volume reads easily, thanks to his determination to keep us on the move as he leads us in some detail through the complications of French politics.

He writes too about Gambetta's life and about such private matters as his long liaison with the mysterious Léonie Léon, who was to be his secret companion from 1872 until his death and to whom he wrote some 3,000 letters. (Mr Bury, with typical precision, tells us that several hundred letters from Gambetta still exist in a mysterious "safe place", while some hundred letters from Léonie Léon were spirited away from Paris by the Germans. But he has, with laudable persistence, succeeded in seeing what he has reason to believe are reliable typescript copies of all of these letters.) It is noticeable that Mr Bury, when telling us that Léonie Léon had been a devoted Catholic who, under Gambetta's influence, lost her faith for a while, suggests that her Catholicism might have strengthened his natural disposition towards tolerance. Perhaps this is a pointer to what will be the overall conclusions Mr Bury is coming to about a Gambetta who is tolerant and adaptable rather than assertive and dominant.

When considering a work of this length and detail, put together with a patience and an erudition which most historians will envy, it might seem superfluous to point to the quotations which have been omitted. But in the choice which Mr Bury has necessarily had to make among the speeches, newspaper articles and letters, it is interesting to see what has been chosen. For example, in a message to the newly-elected President of the General Council for the Allier department, Mr Bury, while quoting Gambetta's remarks about the new political world which is coming into being and in itself constitutes a revolution, does not refer to his approval of dec… or his statement that the… republicans was to prote… the defender of every le… terest, that they consider… as a means of protecting… oping the rights of both… geoisie and the proletari… similar passages could b… from *La République Fran…* betta's newspaper, which… attention particularly to… provinces and is notabl… appeals for moderation… rather than for republica… siveness. As Gambetta p… in 1874, "the right reads… *lique* more than does the l… he approved of this.

It is only too easy, in Fr… tical history, to suggest th… approach, or another slant,… preferable. Everyone c… their own quotations; the… lack of telling phrases… Bury's knowledge and a… are rare and everyone… forward to the complet… important study of the Thi… lic and its politics.

Battle of the books

J. Q. C. MACKRELL :

The Attack on 'Feudalism' in 18th Century France

215pp. Routledge and Kegan Paul. £4.95.

The reader who returns to Georges Lefebvre's *Quatre-vingt-neuf*, first published in 1939, is likely to feel a nostalgic regret for the days of lost innocence. Everything used to be so clear, so orderly and so purposeful. A declining landed aristocracy still clung to its social pre-eminence while "dans la réalité, la puissance économique, la capacité, les perspectives d'avenir passaient aux mains de la bourgeoisie", a middle class whose ideology had been given abstract form by the writers of the Enlightenment. Everything was in its place and evolving in accordance with inexorable law. A generation later, we may have earned the right to reject some of Lefebvre's assumptions and over-simplifications, but we have lost both his synoptic vision and his sense of historical purpose.

The late Alfred Cobban, who did more than anyone to challenge the views of Lefebvre and his French disciples, earned the gratitude of all historians of the French Revolution by encouraging them to stand on their own feet and look at the evidence with their own eyes, but he had no system of his own to substitute for the one that he attacked with such characteristic gusto. J. Q. C. Mackrell is a former pupil of Cobban and he shares some of the merits, the prejudices and even the style of his old master. Like Cobban, he is concerned about "feudalism", which may strike some of the labourers in this particular vineyard as substituting a name for a thing. It is rather as though a contemporary historian were to treat attacks on "capitalism" between the world wars, instead of investigating socialist theories or Labour Party policies. One could at least argue that "capitalism" existed, whereas "feudalism" in eighteenth-century France was never much more than a rude word for a miscellaneous rag-bag of antiquated concepts, rights and institutions.

Dr Mackrell chases this elusive prey with much patience and erudition. Despite his skill and determination, his bag at the end of the day is disappointing, and one cannot help wondering whether his quarry was not a red herring in more senses than one. His subject is not "feudalism" itself—whatever that was—but the arguments employed against it. Since very little was actually done, the attack on "feudalism" therefore becomes a battle of the books, and this study is a book about books and the reviews of books. We are taken over some relatively familiar ground, such as the argument about the origins of the French nobility, the plea for a *noblesse commerçante* and the utilitarian objections to classifying seigneurial dues as a form of property. Dr Mackrell is always well-informed and some of his information is likely to be new to almost everyone, but he leaves the reader with the feeling that this is not what really mattered. Rather than follow the exchange of limp historical arguments, often borrowed from the writings of the previous century, one would like to know what was actually going on. Was there a "seigneurial reaction" or not; how unfair *were* the manorial courts; was the nobility felt to be becoming more socially exclusive: in other words, was there a growing tendency to attack real people and actual institutions? But Dr Mackrell's "attack" was only against "feudalism" and its weightiest weapon was only a folio volume.

He does a certain amount of attacking of his own. From time to time "the Marxists" are treated to a passing broadside and in his epilogue he nails his Cobbanite colours firmly to the mast, as he turns from what the men of the *ancien régime* wrote to what the revolutionaries actually did. The "abolition of feudalism" of August 4, 1789, is presented as a thoroughly shabby business, a temporary and reluctant concession to the peasantry by seigneurially-minded deputies who "undid most of their concessions in their subsequent decrees". There is something in this, but perhaps not so much as Dr Mackrell would have us believe. Even the decree of July 17, 1793 is presented as another example of "the defrauding of the peasantry", since seigneurial dues are said to have been allowed to continue under other names. This is to confuse freeholders with tenants. For the overwhelming majority of the former, seigneurial dues were a thing of the past. If landowners then raised leases to appropriate what their tenants had hoped to gain from themselves, this was bad luck on the tenants, but scarcely justifies Dr Mackrell's claim that Revolutionary governments attacked the symbols of feudalism while leaving its reality intact. He himself concedes as much a little further on, where the decree that was earlier said to have defrauded the peasants becomes "the symbol of peasant emancipation", and the bogy of a restoration of "feudalism" is said to have stalked the countryside through much of the nineteenth century.

One gets the impression that the author is unwilling to concede anything at all to the revolutionaries. The administration of Louis XVI is given credit for its good intentions towards the peasantry, although Dr Mackrell is too honest an historian to claim that it did them much good. He thinks that the revolutionaries did not even try. Balzac knew better than that. Besides, "the peasants" is as unreal an abstraction as "feudalism" or Cobban's old *bête noire*, "the bourgeoisie". The Revolution was not about "the people" but about people, and what they did was rather more important than the books they wrote.

Socialist Register 1973

edited by
RALPH MILIBAND
JOHN SAVILLE

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474pp

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Sufferance Wharf,
Isle of Dogs, London, E.14

Local clubmen

MICHAEL L. KENNEDY :

The Jacobin Club of Marseilles, 1790-1794

221pp. University of California Press (IBEG). £5.95.

Given the meagreness of the surviving records of the Jacobin Club of Marseilles, Michael Kennedy's ingenuity in writing so well-documented an account of its activities, membership and ideology is most striking. Starting with an examination of the club's relationship with the various learned societies, masonic lodges and educational establishments which flourished in Marseilles in the 1780s, Dr Kennedy goes on to analyse the club's role in the Revolution, providing much new information and, above all, a greater degree of precision than hitherto. Breaking newer ground, however, is his discussion of the club's personnel. Were the Jacobins of Marseilles the "terrible apparitions" whose "abominable existence" soiled French history? Not at all: statistical evidence contradicts this picture. The clubists were middle-aged, staid family men, often owning the houses they lived in, paying a good deal of tax. Nothing could be more "bourgeois". And, in fact, in its first year or so, the club was dominated by wholesale merchants, lawyers and other professional men. Still mainly bourgeois in 1792-93, it underwent radical democratization in the autumn of 1793. While, even then, real workers were largely absent, the statistics here provided do show that the drop in social status of the Marseilles Jacobins during the Terror was more considerable than that suggested by Crane Brinton for the French Jacobins as a whole.

Dr Kennedy remarks that while the Jacobin Club of Paris represented ideological orthodoxy, nevertheless "doctrine proved sufficiently malleable to allow local variations". At Marseilles, "the most distinctive feature of the Club's ideology was an extraordinary regional chauvinism". And so the Marseillais' activities as Republican missionaries throughout the southern departments and their more direct intervention in national politics (the march to Paris, the *journée* of August 10, 1792, the "Marseillaise") are lucidly and vividly narrated. But the specific ingredients of the ideology of the Marseillais, as presented here, hardly seem to differ greatly from Parisian orthodoxy: intolerance, fanaticism of a quasi-religious nature, *fraternité* limited to a closed circle of *frères*, a belief in the sovereignty of the people—a people whose spokesmen and instructors they claimed to be. On social matters, "the ideal of the Marseillais was not a twentieth-century collectivist state, but, as was the case with Jacobins elsewhere, a Jeffersonian paradise of small property owners". It seems, therefore, that their "regional chauvinism" did not produce any particularly distinctive brand of Jacobinism—rather the … tant assertion of a more… was strongest in certai… strata but which operat… broadly similar fashion… national scale.

At a time when local his… proliferating, with the co… tendency to exaggerate loc… ences, a demonstration… common features of Ja… throughout France might… both salutary and overdue… nedy does not make this p… much of his evidence does… particularities can probably… understood when set firm… national context. It is here… book has some limitations… interpretation of the split… Girondins and Montagnards… invokes only the predomi… personal animosities seems… ate; the issues involved, ei… or imagined, were surely of… wider scope. This could ha… shown by a fuller expositio… debates within the Marseill… where matters of crucial… social and economic imp… were constantly being relat… struggles between the politi… tions.

Similarly, other features… ideology and activities of th… might have been more sha… fined by being more closely… to accounts of the social a… nomic situation in the city… ious stages of the Revolutio… thus can the reverberation… Girondin-Montagnard split b… brought out, while such a… tant aspect of the clubists'… as their antagonism to the… might be analysed in a… crete fashion. "Envy and… the rich motivated the… members in their attacks… Chamber of Commerce."

Possibly: but underlying… like were divergent interest… should be worth explori… Chamber of Commerce seen… monopolistic tool of the… elite, resented by the middl… chants and manufacturers… formed a large proportion… club's membership; as cham… the slave trade and of the… oppression of the colonial… tions; as a centre of resist… the Revolution by encourag… payment of taxes by the… evoke such questions is not… doubt on the main conclusio… Kennedy's work, but to give… more acute significance… can the effectiveness of the… activities be clearly defined.

Were not, in fact, many… activities counter-productive… during counter-revolution… how effective was the… "great concern for the plight… poor"? Perhaps the posing… questions is merely a way… that much work remains to… on the revolutionary history… seilles, especially in the so… economic spheres. For the… we should be grateful… Kennedy has provided us… an informative and agreeabl… tan survey of his chosen…

Whiffs of decadence

PHILIPPE JULLIAN :

The Symbolists

Translated by Mary Anne Stevens
…40pp. Phaidon. £7.95.

Philippe Jullian is interested in the culture of the later nineteenth century. Some years ago he offered a stylishly inaccurate life of Oscar Wilde where, among other surprising items of news, he informed us that W. B. Yeats had spent several years among the fishermen of the Aran Isles, bringing back Gaelic melodies which, at Oscar's command, were sung to the Wilde children. The biography was followed at narrow intervals by other works, including *Dreamers of the Decadence*, whose agreeable reception may possibly have provoked the appearance of *The Symbolists* which covers part of the same ground. But *The Symbolists* is a misleading title, for the book is confined to the Symbolist painting of France and Belgium.

The present revival of Symbolist painting goes back about a dozen years. The first ambitious exhibition was mounted at the Galleria d'Arte Moderna at Turin in 1969, and later in the same year, under the title of "The Sacred and the Profane in Symbolist Art", it travelled to Toronto. The introductory note to that exhibition by Mario Amaya suggested that Symbolist art might now be identified as an alternative tradition to Salon and Impressionist art, while other contributors to the catalogue established origins for the movement in German Romantic and Pre-Raphaelite painting, and heirs among the Expressionists and Surrealists.

M Jullian, however, finds the Turin exhibition rather incoherent. The themes for pictorial symbolism, he severely suggests, "might be similar in Milan and Vienna, Glasgow and Darmstadt, but their expression differed widely in each city". Arguable, but possibly so; yet the international quality of Symbolist art is of clear historical importance, and is one of the connexions with Symbolist literature. M Jullian tells us next that the Turin exhibition "was also too large". Its successor, "French Symbolist Art" at London and Liverpool in 1972, in which M Jullian had something of a hand—"a major exhibition", he modestly calls it—was as confined as its title suggests; it was not merely immense but rather monotonous. The artists who were reputedly interesting were indeed interesting. They included Puvis, Moreau and, supremely, Redon, the masters of the Symbolists, along with Gauguin and a few other established figures. Most of the remainder could be dismissed with an aposiopesis.

By confining Symbolist painting to France, the exhibition necessarily excluded the more interesting developments, though clearly the Rose-Croix contingents had to be shown. The catalogue was a sturdily professional job, more so than that of the Toronto exhibition, but M Jullian is surely rather ungenerous in suggesting that the notion of Symbolist painting as an alternative tradition originated only with the affair of 1972.

M Jullian is elaborately read in the muskier literature of the French *fin de siècle* and by no means slow in bringing it to bear. Connexions between Symbolist painting and literature turn out to be disappointingly thin. But, if his subject is confined, M Jullian is not; his prose moves with a rapid allusiveness that leaves small occasion for close analysis or judgment of value, while the translation reverently preserves all the spilt rhetoric of its original. M Jullian is a phrase-maker and a name-dropper. Such analogies as there may be between literature and art are accomplished with this rigour:

> Parallels between art and poetry can also be found in the work of French poets at this time. Redon comes to mind when one reads one of Moreas' poems and Gustave Kahn comes close to Khnopff in his *Palais Nomades* ("Nomad Palaces").

At this point we are invited to break off and look up the quotations and their translations at the back of the book. The next quotation, however, is inconsistently placed in the main text: "These lines of Viélé-Griffin were much loved"; the French original then follows, and after:

> (When the raindrops fell on the garden
> I caught the drops in my hands.
> Raindrops warm as tears).

Then the cogent conclusion:

> Rain is also mentioned in the poems of Henry Bataille, and in those of André Gide.

And the next paragraph begins:

> Rustling through the dead leaves of the Symbolist garden, the figures of Claudel, Anna de Nouilles and Paul Valéry flit past.

What reader who requires his French to be translated for him can spot at a glance the Comtesse de Nouilles as she flits by? And not only the Comtesse but hundreds of others. The introduction to *The Symbolists* reads distinctly as if Beerbohm had recast Savonarola Brown in the days of Enoch Soames, though what is intended is rather a fashionably furnished imaginary museum.

M Jullian's touch is less sure with his English battalions; still, there is nothing so distinguished as Yeats on the Aran Isles or Lionel Johnson's Latin *sonnet* on Dorian Gray; but we do find an odd allusion to "the drawings of George Moore" (as these apparently prolong the Symbolist tradition in England they can hardly be those of *Albert* Moore). A record does survive of George Moore knocking off an Impressionist-style painting in his later age, but can there be symbolist drawings by that adorer of Manet? Or, contrary to report, did Moore have a collection of symbolist drawings? Like some of the more obfuse of the paintings in this book, M Jullian's prose sets us several puzzles of this kind. The answer here must be *Henry Moore*, not an easy name to get wrong, one might have supposed, but with M Julian one can never be sure; most of his hundreds of names are in for the euphony. And, even with the French, M Jullian makes errors; Samain and Rodenbach, we are told, died before the age of forty. Not so.

As an introduction to French or to any sort of Symbolist painting this book is worthless, though the reproductions are pretty. The Symbolist tradition is worth reviving as an historical oddity or as involving painters whose real merits have been obscured by timid art history or as a stimulus to contemporary artists in an impasse. But the revival of the tradition is too recent; there is still a need for properly historical and critical essays. Setting a *belle lettrist* on painters who have been charged with being purely "literary" seems pointless. The reader will find more reward in Edward Lucie-Smith's survey of Symbolist art at a fifth of the price, though his book is less well illustrated. If *The Symbolists* has a place it is as a *livre de collection*.

Teaching it

DICK FIELD and JOHN NEWICK (Editors) :

The Study of Education and Art

…4pp, Routledge and Kegan Paul. £3.80 (paperback, £1.90).

In editing *The Study of Education and Art*, Dick Field, of the London University Institute of Education, has undertaken a stimulating but risky enterprise. All the contributors are either staff from the Art Department there or close collaborators. This is stimulating because one might hope to read a matured collection of ideas and philosophies, with the rough edges smoothed off by frequent discussion. It is risky because, if the book fails as a book, then the Institute catches the criticism. We cannot know how these ideas go together in real life. Do the contributors cooperate or contradict each other, or simply peacefully coexist, in their daily business of teaching art teachers how and what to teach?

It turns out that these matters are hardly touched on. Pedagogic technique and curriculum content are nowhere discussed. The book is really a "defence of art teaching". The central question is instead "Why teach art to children?"; and the essays present varied claims for the importance and status of art in the school programme. It does, however, seem rather strained when some of the contributors try to justify teaching art by reference to psychological or ethological arguments which are so remote from the classroom that they seem not so much special pleading as window-dressing. All the same the book should be read—and not only by students of the subject, for it discusses problems that are central to the social function of education.

Because of the destruction of any coherent institutions of adult professional art by a successful avant-garde, an *instrumental* or *rational* justification for the teaching of art in schools has lost its credibility. For a brief period, when varieties of "expressionism" (such as that of Picasso, for example) were of central interest, it was possible to see child art as a similar process of self-revelation—more innocent, perhaps, and technically less able, but explicable in similar terms drawn from Freudian theories of psychodynamics. Today, movements such as, say, "Minimal" sculpture, "Conceptualism" or "Neo-Dada" have no contact with the child's spontaneous drawings and paintings of the figurative world. The justification for encouraging such activity in school cannot be that it is the beginner's first step toward a mature adult version. It must rest on other arguments of a more general kind.

The school mirrors the social realities of the larger world. In the school timetable the place of art reflects its importance in adult affairs. The contributors to this book feel that art in the school is nowadays a poor relation, continually forced to justify itself by the alien criteria of cognitive disciplines such as science or mathematics—rather in the way that Latin was once defended on the grounds that it "taught people to think". This challenge is met here in two different ways. Claims can be advanced for the cognitive value of art itself, while one can even assert (picking up the platonizing philosophy of Herbert Read's *Education through Art*) that art is *the* paradigm of cognition, thus turning the tables on the philistines. The danger here is that art teaching gets involved in amateurish speculation on the psychology of creativity, and the art room becomes merely a lateral think-tank. Alternatively, counter-claims can be advanced for art as a spiritual and moral health-giver—an antidote to an excess of precisely those cognitive functions which our society stresses far too much. At the end of this road is the idea of the art teacher as amateur psychotherapist or even shaman.

These issues are discussed with varying emphases by Rosemary Gordon, Mel Marshak and John Newick. Louis Arnaud Reid cuts into this territory with the notion of "aesthetic intuition" as a unique and profound mode of knowing which goes beyond the merely cognitive and involves the feelings in the very act of knowing and not merely as *post facto* refreshment. Sonia Rouve tackles the difficult problem of relating these approaches which all lead, in their different ways, to a "child-centred" pedagogy, to the teaching of the history of art—i e, to art as an adult social phenomenon. She notes that the hostility to art history teaching in art schools is related to the attitudes which art students have picked up earlier, and suggests ways out of this dilemma for the historian in a restructured course with a heavy synchronic emphasis.

The best essay is by Leslie Perry, who distinguishes the idea of an educated "person" from that of a trained intelligence. He isolates a number of properties of the creative process—situation, motive, adventure, communication, imagination, objectiveness—which are of critical importance for education. For example, "intrinsic motivation" can easily be cultivated in the arts, whereas, in the world at large, the satisfaction of doing something for its own sake is now available for most only in their hobbies—marginal holidays from the instrumental reality of work. Every tiny drawing offers a challenge to the most adventurous and at the end an explorer's reward, again not gratifications to be had easily elsewhere in a world where the "New Frontier" has receded beyond the moon. Mr Perry explores these themes in perceptive, lucid and modest prose. His essay alone conveys a true sense of the dignity of the art educator's profession. In this context the appended transcript of a symposium at the Institute on the problem of "whether teachers need to make art in order to teach" seems too often trite and lightweight.

The French *were* first

SVEND ERIKSEN :

Early Neo-Classicism in France

Translated and Edited by Peter Thornton

431pp plus 499 plates. Faber and Faber, £35.

On May 1, 1763, Baron de Grimm informed the royal and noble intellectuals who subscribed to his exclusive *Correspondance Littéraire* that "la décoration extérieure et intérieure des bâtiments, les meubles, les étoffes, les bijoux de toute espèce, tout à Paris est à la grecque". What exactly he meant by this no doubt appeared as clear as daylight to anyone living in contemporary Paris, but it seems much less so two centuries later. These simple words have given rise to endless controversy in recent years. More than four decades ago that learned authority on the French interior, the late Fiske Kimball, roundly declared that Grimm simply did not mean what he said; that Neo-Classicism was barely known in France at that date though it was already becoming familiar in England. Long before the Council of Europe's great Neo-Classical Exhibition took place two years ago, those who read the correspondence columns of certain learned art journals will know that a fierce battle had raged for over a decade between those who believed that the French created the first truly Neo-Classical furniture and those who were certain that the English had done so.

The few scholars interested enough in the issues, or sufficiently informed to appreciate them, still remain locked in this Laputan struggle. The pro-English faction (which included some Frenchmen) was not prepared to concede defeat even when Svend Eriksen rediscovered the once famous Neo-Classical furniture made for La Live de Jully and showed that it must have been in existence by about 1757, well before James Stuart created his Neo-Classical furniture for Spencer House. The La Live suite, contemporaries had declared, was "the source of inspiration for the first phase of what we call today the Neo-Classic style in France". To counter this powerful argument the Anglophiles contended that Neo-Classicism had been a continuous tradition in England ever since the revival of Palladianism in the 1730s.

Although it is only incidental to his theme to settle this long-drawn battle of the styles, Mr Eriksen has assembled at vast length every tittle of evidence bearing on the French side of the subject now available. It is improbable that any future historian of furniture will find much more of significance to add to the material he has garnered or change the picture he has produced. The French Neo-Classical style he finds (as John Harris had done before him) had its roots in the ephemeral designs produced by the young *pensionnaires* of the French Académie at Rome during their stay there in the 1740s, principally Le Geay, Jardin, Pettitot and Le Lorrain. These men were architects, but Mr Eriksen extends his researches to a far wider field. His treatment of his subject and the range of his expertise is indicated by the subtitle of his work: "The creation of the Louis Seize style in architectural decoration, furniture and ormolu, gold and silver, and Sèvres porcelain in the mid-eighteenth century."

To one who is not a standard-bearer for either side it certainly seems that, by flinging such weighty reinforcements into the field, Mr Eriksen has entirely routed those who hold a pro-English viewpoint in this controversy. If any battered English Philistines survive to whimper the name of Palladio, Mr Eriksen has furnished himself with an ass's jawbone in the form of some well-chosen quotations from Blondel's writings which are guaranteed to leave them with neither hips nor thighs to drag their bleeding carcases from the field.

Early Neo-Classicism in France began as one of the slim octavo volumes of the Faber Monographs on Furniture, so ably edited by Peter Thornton. Here, however, he has allowed the monograph to develop into a monster book, *hors de série*, a bulky quarto nearly four inches thick with over 500 illustrations (already the review copy is being torn away from its light binding by the sheer weight—fifth—of its paper). Within these covers Mr Eriksen has assembled an almost incredible amount of useful material—art-historical, social, biographical, critical and documentary. That he is able to do so is not only "a tribute to his own wide-ranging knowledge" but to the remarkably rich documentation of the decorative arts in eighteenth-century France compared with any other country.

Mr Harris's corresponding volume on English Neo-Classical furniture was far slimmer. In carrying out his task Mr Eriksen has provided specialists with a book of reference, a sort of bible of early French Neo-Classicism to which they will gratefully return again and again, as a sort of lucky dip from which they will be able to draw up new golden nuggets bearing on their own problems. But how many such specialists are there? A doubtful two-score-and-ten at most. And of those less than a handful will really be able to appreciate when the author is indulging in justifiable inference and when in merely intelligent speculation (as he frequently does without himself attempting to confuse the two issues). In an age when it is widely proclaimed that it is impossible to get really serious research work published, all such readers must be profoundly grateful to the publishers for issuing such a remarkable book for the benefit of so limited a public.

It seems a pity that it was thought necessary to add to the bulk of this huge volume by translating every French quotation. Translations of documents sometimes run to four or more pages. Anyone likely to embark on such a book, whether specialist or not, will surely not need quite so much help.

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Coven stories

MICHAEL HARRISON :

The Roots of Witchcraft

278pp plus 45 plates. Muller. £4.50.

It is fully human to look for meaning and pattern in events of all kinds, exterior and interior, physical, emotional, historical, scientific. But impatience in the search makes it fatally easy to freeze a hypothesis into a rigid system of *idées fixes*, into which every conceivable occurrence is forcibly fitted. From observing what goes on to operating Procrustes's Bed is all too short a step. Michael Harrison dances it with ingenuity and zest.

His pattern of thought derives from some ideas of the late Dr Margaret Murray: that the most ancient religion in the world was the cult of fertility (in itself largely the practice of sympathetic magic rather than that adoration of a remote Great Spirit which field anthropologists have found co-existing with a lesser polytheism among even the most primitive communities); that this fertility cult was hated and driven underground by organized Christianity, which nevertheless used fertility symbolism such as that of the Vine; that the cult was kept alive by witch covens, who sacrificed a divine victim every seven years; that William the Conqueror invaded England to strengthen it; and that later kings adhered to it, along with Joan of Arc, Gilles de Rais, old Uncle Tom Becket and all.

Like the web of an LSD-fed spider this elegant myth is attached to the objective world at very few points indeed. Mr Harrison certainly shows that belief in fertility rites and images survived for a very long time in very many countries, illustrating his point by pictures of objects from the Aegean, Britain, China, Iraq and the near and far East (though it is a pity that the symbolic bull, item 28a, is so plainly an ox). He also marshals an ingenious argument that the words of many witch rituals, as reported in two books published in 1971, originate in the Basque language. For the rest, though he writes with immense erudition, his book remains off beam, because he fails to reconcile anthropology with history, myths bubbling up from the dream-time of pre-literate communities with factual evidence drawn from dated chronological records.

Thus, he seems oblivious of the long and complex political controversies between Henry II and Thomas Becket after the latter, having been made Archbishop of Canterbury, transferred his allegiance from the State to the Church; and of the access of fury which made the king shout: "Who will free me from this turbulent priest?" These are hardly the solemn words with which a man appoints a willing victim to replace him as "a surrogate sacrifice". But they do exemplify Henry's recurrent diabolical rages, which he regarded as a heritage from his demon ancestress, the fairy Melusine (what fun Mr Harrison could have had if he had realized her existence).

Again, he says that Joan of Arc was "certainly a witch" and "met her ritual death at Rouen", which was therefore "obviously a holy place of the old faith". Now Joan believed her "voices" came from three Christian saints; confessed her sins and received Holy Communion before going to the stake, and died calling on Christ in her last agony. She was condemned by ecclesiastics who would clearly not have lent themselves to planning a "ritual death" in a place noted for witchcraft.

Such points need to be made because myths tend to muffle truth as ivy muffles buildings, and the myth of the Noble Witch is as fast-growing as its old cousin, the myth of the Noble Savage. It is sad to find learned and responsible writers ignoring date-time for dream-time, scholarship for proliferating fantasy, in-growing and out-going.

Glorious moments

MICHAEL PAFFORD :

Inglorious Wordsworths
A study of some transcendental experiences in childhood and adolescence

270pp. Hodder and Stoughton. £4.

"I believe this work to be a quite outstanding pioneer contribution to the natural history of man", writes Sir Alister Hardy, biologist founder of the Religious Experience Research Unit at Oxford, in his foreword to Michael Pafford's careful collection and discussion of numinous experiences, chiefly among students. As a boy the author himself had them, and took it for granted that they "were given from without", that they "were a glimpse of what was most real and important in the universe", and that his friends and contemporaries had them too, though like him they did not mention the fact.

Later, teaching Wordsworth to an uninterested class "taking English Literature" in an examination, he began to wonder how many ordinary people were illuminated by such moments of glory without wishing—or perhaps without knowing how—to describe them. That the articulate felt these "bright shootes of everlastingnesse" was plain to see from what they had written; Forrest Reid, Aldous Huxley, C. S. Lewis, A. L. Rowse and many more in our own time, as well as innumerable others in the past. What about the inarticulate?

To try to find out Mr Pafford designed a questionnaire, which is printed as an appendix at the end of the book. There are inquiries into age, sex, family, place of upbringing (urban or rural), special subjects studied, and so on; but the most important part hinges on a quotation from W. H. Hudson. Recipients were asked whether they had ever had similar experiences, and if they had, to describe them and to answer a number of questions as to when, where, how and how often it had happened. They were also—rather oddly—asked to "tick any of the following words which . . . describe the experience(s) you have had"—surely a mode of expression outgrown by the average eight-year old. (One of those words is the nauseating "awesome", which is to "awe-inspiring" as a cosy wallflight of china ducks is to the sound of migrants heard at night.) However, the results of this questionnaire were fascinating. Five hundred sixth-formers and undergraduates, male and female, were asked to fill it in, as a contribution to a piece of research, and 475 of them did so. The most important conclusion drawn from the evidence is that "William James appears to have been right in thinking that many people, if not most, have 'the mystical germ'".

There are tables and graphs for those who find them useful, but the extracts from some of the descriptions received are more interesting still, particularly as Mr Pafford is constantly aware of the danger of confounding verbal dexterity with emotional depth. He devotes a later chapter to the difficulty of distinguishing between religious and aesthetic impressions, and, writing with care, sensitivity and a wide knowledge succeeds in avoiding the irrelevance of semantic controversy. He suggests, tentatively enough, that the contemplation of God, characterized by a sense of "a mysterious power or presence, 'a something beyond everything'", is not necessarily the same as an overwhelming perception of beauty. He observes, too, that the temptation to a "spiritual gluttony" that ignores the world seems stronger in the East than in the West, whose tradition is to seek the love of God and, having found it, to be used for its transmission to others.

Favourite haunts

PETER UNDERWOOD :

A Gazetteer of Scottish and Irish Ghosts

251pp plus unnumbered plates. Souvenir Press. £2.50.

Peter Underwood observes in his introduction that, since local legends of hauntings are dying out, "when some inexplicable figure is glimpsed for a moment in some ruined castle", no one knows whom it represents or what its history may have been. He hopes his book will put this right. It does indeed assemble a great many stories, though their sources are all too often introduced by such phrases as "it is said" and "I have been told".

Mr Underwood does not go into the chicken-and-egg puzzle of which came first, the ghost or the legend: did a tradition grow up to explain a haunting or did some violent local drama predispose generation after generation to expect—and "see"—an apparition? Indeed, he does not attempt to sort out his material in relation to any general ideas. It is arranged on a strictly geographical basis. Each case, old or new — and there are some fascinating reports of phantom cars, lorries and aeroplanes — is cited alphabetically under the name of the place where it is said to have happened. He does not claim that all the entries are "factual accounts" and records, without distinguishing comment, eye-witness descriptions, anecdotes, old wives' tales and folk lore with its "love-talkers", Green Ladies, Banshees and Little People. No parallels are drawn, say, between those fatal "love talkers" and Emily Brontë's strange "visitant of air"; and though Sir Shane Leslie, it is claimed, "really did have a family Banshee" there is no discussion of the possibility that some precognitions of death may indeed emerge to consciousness by way of an hallucination of this symbolic traditional figure. And so on. This lack of background and of linking thought is frustrating, and produces a sense of cumulative triviality as the book continues, marked as it is by much reportage, little depth, inadequate references and a good deal of hazy allusion, for instance to apparitions of Robert Louis Stevenson "seen on occasions" near a yew-tree in his grandfather's garden at Colinton, and of Sir Walter Scott "seen on rare occasions" in the dining room at Abbotsford.

Even phantom drivers and haunted four-posters, Brocken-like spectres on Ben Macdui and omen-drummings at Cortachy Castle lose their numinous quality if they are recorded neither as moving personal experiences nor as events which have been checked and explored. The legend of Glamis itself has a certain Gothick unreality here instead of the factual impact conveyed by Paul Bloomfield's careful investigation of 1964; and the brief synopsis of the Derrygonelly poltergeist case might have been drawn from some local paper rather than from (unacknowledged) publications of the Society for Psychical Research.

Nevertheless, as "whatever is worth doing is worth doing badly" rather than not at all, gratitude is due to Mr Underwood for all the material he has made available. It should be most useful to investigators prepared to undertake a good deal of verification.

Over and back

JOHN S. DUNNE :

The Way of All Earth
An Encounter with Eastern Religions

240pp. Sheldon Press. £2.50.

Although there are plenty of *leitmotivs* which recur time and time again, in *The Way of All Earth* we never seem to know quite where we are going or why. This is the impression John S. Dunne seems to wish to create. Despite the title, clearly not all ways are one way: indeed it seems to be implied that each man must find his own way, explore other ways and enrich himself thereby, and then return to his own way enriched with new insights he has discovered by his assimilating himself temporarily to other ways, other religions, and other lives.

Although the author is Professor of Religious Studies at Yale University, the book is totally free from academic pretension. It is a leisurely rumination on the perennial mysteries of life and death and anything but an essay on comparative religion. Yet it is curiously scrappy. The great religions are briefly touched on, parallels and contrasts emerge, and tentative conclusions are drawn, some of which seem surprising. For instance, Professor Dunne is very keen that we should "care for Being" (which Plato might have understood and Heidegger probably does), but few of us would expect "to learn from *Gotama* how to care for Being", for the Buddha's teaching was surely that to *care* for Being (even granted that "Being" is a legitimate translation of "Nirvana") is a pretty sure way of never attaining to it. In fact the whole Buddhist tradition seems to avoid the concept of Being like the plague, as an inadequate description of the Absolute or Buddha-nature.

Occasionally Professor Dunne strikes an arresting idea, the best of which seems to be the necessity to "forgive God". "After Jesus had forgiven other people", he writes, "there was still the God ... abandoned him to his fate ... to speak here of 'forgiving G... and yet it seems the most ... ate way of what sometimes ... when we make peace with G... is very true and needs saying ... as revealed both in the Jew... tures and in the Arabic ... the kind of autocrat that ... humanist would not even ... forgive. Hence it is far easier ... lieve that the divine ... not really exist and to turn ... form of Buddhism or Hind... which he either does not exi... or has been sterilized into ... operative and impossible ... the philosophers".

However, this is not the ... Professor Dunne, who seeks ... bine the insights of all religi... an interpenetrating tapestry ... can be seen as a modern ... of Hwa Yen Buddhism ... rather incongruous modern ... ents (Kazantzakis, Machado, ... André Malraux among them) ... in. The theme of the b... summed up as follows:

> If his spiritual journey th... form of "passing over" ... "coming back" . . . then it ... indeed an odyssey like ... Odysseus, a journey which ... leads back to home. He will ... like Odysseus through ... to homeland. He will pass ... sympathetic understanding ... other ways of life and will ... to his own with new insig... will travel through the ... land of other religions, other ... tures, other lives, only to ... back to the homeland of ... religion, his own culture, ... life. Why pass over? Bec... will come back with new ... standing and his religion, ... ture, his life will be ... Why come back? Because ... wise he will lose his own ... his own culture, his own ...

Repetitive, some may think ... they would be right. The pa... is, however, entirely typical ... book as a whole. Despite ... sional insights, the pace is ... surely to hold the attention ...

All-time highs

MICHAEL J. HARNER (Editor) :

Hallucinogens and Shamanism

200pp. Oxford University Press. £3.90 (paperback, 90p).

BABA RAM DASS :

Doing your own Being

121pp. Neville Spearman. £1.25.

There is little in common between these two books except psychedelic drugs. The approach of the authors of *Hallucinogens and Shamanism* is (with one exception) academic and socio-anthropological, that of Baba Ram Dass enthusiastic and ungrammatically spontaneous. Both are unsatisfactory because they have nothing new to say.

Hallucinogens and Shamanism is a collection of essays by young American social anthropologists on drug cults and drug users among surviving Amerindian tribes in South and Central America, with a piece on European witchcraft thrown in for good measure. Nothing strikingly new emerges, and the bulk of the book is marred by the usual socio-anthropological jargon and a total unawareness of style. Some of the contributions read like not very promising undergraduate essays ("Thus the Campa *Amárampi* ceremony is definitely a shamanistic performance") and nowhere is there any sign of originality or insight—unless one concedes these to Henry Munn, the odd ecstatic man out in this dull book. Of Mr Munn the editor says: "In his essay on shamanistic curing by the Mazatec Indians of Oaxaca, Mexico, [he] is able, by means of a remarkable literary style, to convey something of the impact of such a hallucinogen-induced experience on a participating outsider." He does indeed, and he leaves us with the impression that the magic mushroom (*psilocybe mexicana* Heim; this time, not our old friend ... agaric) has unhinged his mind ... particular god who speaks ... this mushroom, moreover, is ... lessly voluble, and Mr Munn ... have been very high ... endure even in ecstasy eight ... of the deity's incoherent ...

Baba Ram Dass, as earnest ... seekers will know, is none other ... Richard Alpert, PhD, late of ... vard University, Timothy L... former associate. Fortunately ... Alpert has been luckier than ... Leary, having avoided both ... involuntary exile; his own ... was the exile of quest, ... quest took him to India ... through a blond young Am... giant he found his ... unhooked him from drugs ... turned him on to a fairly ... form of Hindu pantheism ... Scott's introduction describ... conversion, while the rest of ... book consists of two tape-re... lectures which, in the nature of ... case, are neither grammatical ... coherent. The book is not ... ing or even funny (which ... Leary's *Politics of Ecstasy* ... times was) but just uniformly ... as only the One and the All ... when experienced by brain... ex-intellectuals:

> Now I'm sitting looking ... their eyebrows doing Om ... *Padme Hum* . . . and they ... me and they say, "I want ... my penis up your nose" ... openers. So I sit there ... *Mani Padme Hum*, . . . Just as if he had opened ... mouth and gone, "a blah ... blah, blah," right? ... words, I don't have ... going.

Baba Ram Dass has a ... lowing among the young ... Charles Manson. So "Do your ... Being"—or un-Being— ... you prefer, since on the ... levels there is no ... anyhow.

Flesh potty

BENJAMIN TAMMUZ :

...stle in Spain

Translated by Joseph Schachter

...pp. Gollancz. £2.60.

...o an outside observer the intensity and passion of a lover's world ...ways make it appear unstable, ...en insane. Any true love story, ...om Abelard to Lolita, is the history of an obsession. The narrator ...f Benjamin Tammuz's novel tries ...o welcome the reader and make ...im feel at home in this restricted ...world; we peer uneasily through ...e enlarged keyhole, acknowledge ...e power of the obsession, but, inevitably, fail to share it. The narrator is a twenty-nine-year-old ...raeli called Elly, who flits from ...b to job after the War of Independence, finally achieving a totally ...warranted reputation as an economics expert. Appalled by this ...y success, he applies for a janitor's job at a Scandinavian embassy, where he meets his particular obsession, a buxom forty-four-year-old secretary.

Nora interviews Elly for the job. From the moment he catches sight of her pink-and-white legs, he is ...; he sits at her desk, remembering her legs, staring at her face, and ...t hearing a single word she is saying. Inexplicably, compulsively, ...y is launched into his passion, a passion which he never questions, examines or alters. Only at the end of the book does he ask himself "Why?", and then the only answer is "I was drawn to Nora by overpowering desire". At one point Nora says: "Only the flesh can lead to the spirit"; but we do not get much spirit, and the flesh is relentlessly, though reticently, served.

Throughout Elly focuses his narrative on Nora, their year-long affair and marriage, but we never get a really clear picture of her. It is difficult to tell whether this is intentional. The book is translated from the Hebrew, and much of the dialogue has the stilted formality of early English versions of Chekhov. The consequent unreality frequently adds to the claustrophobic atmosphere of the affair, and everything redirects us to Elly.

Elly is a sort of poor man's Herzog, with the same interest in philosophy, the same feeling for mankind, the same suffering. Unfortunately the humour and the self-knowledge are missing, and there are many gaps and inconsistencies in Elly's character. Despite everything, he remains an intriguing figure: how much does he understand of his own obsession, and how far does his narrative become divorced from reality? Much of the writing is naive, and the story lurches out of control during an unconvincing episode in France, but the book leaves disturbing echoes in the mind. Perhaps it is a measure of Mr Tammuz's success that at the end of the novel one is so relieved to escape from his fiercely compulsive world.

Bottle and jug

ELAINE DUNDY :

The Injured Party

311pp. Michael Joseph. £3.

Any novel about a young New York magazine editress who first marries her unscrupulous, ambitious chief and then, in a most improbable accident, murders him (his jugular vein severed by a flying piece from a pot hurled against a wall) and afterwards spends the second half of the book in a model jail, risks being drastically episodic and lady's-magazine-ish. Elaine Dundy's third novel is both. The two halves of Rilla's story have no structural coherence, except that Rilla happens to be the principal character in each; and, more damagingly, the perceptions, characterizations and style appear hasty and depthless.

Rilla, "a Modigliani with hair that had to be washed every three days", is never more than a cipher from romantic fiction. None of her conflicts and problems is adequately realized; her best friend is a homosexual (we know this because he declares it on the first page: like characters in a weak play, Miss Dundy's people are always telling their life-histories to those who already know them) and speaks in a sub-Noël Coward dialogue; the prison warden with whom she falls in love is a stock tortured liberal (Rilla begins to love him when at their first meeting she notices he is *shy*—her italics—and has "finely carved ears"); her lesbian lover, Kelly, is boyish, capable and brisk and makes Rilla feel, yes, "*liberated*".

Characterization of this slick two-dimensional order is what one would expect from a novel in which disillusionment means that "Rilla's balloon burst", or, less severely, that "a little stab of angst poked her in the ribs", in which abandoned habits are "things of the past", time "marches on", people return home "of a day's work", a man looking at a woman finds that "his body ached for her", faces are "drenched with tears", and a husband making up with his wife is capable of saying—this gives much of the flavour of *The Injured Party*—

> Please. Consider us. We're unique. We've got everything going for us. We could have a beautiful life. Don't go at me the way my last wife did. I couldn't take it again. Smile at me at least. There! Oh God, I feel better just from that. I feel saved. Halleluiah! You saved me. You can do it.

In both halves of the novel, Miss Dundy goes some distance toward creating a believable environment for her characters: fashionable New York cocktail parties and the routines of prison life are present in telling detail, with many accurate touches. But the convincing settings and occasional flashes of intelligence make the rest of the novel appear the more shoddy and slapdash.

Science fiction in short

...MUND COOPER :

...e Tenth Planet

...pp. Hodder and Stoughton. £1.95.

...e last spaceship blasts off from ...stralia for the colony on Mars, ...ving behind it an Earth wasted by ...logical disaster and social ...archy. Justifiably envious of this ...y way out, somebody has planted ...mbs on board. The captain survives the resulting explosion in a ...irly ingenious manner and, restored by advanced surgery 5,000 ...ars later, endeavours for no comprehensible reason to return to ...rth and start the human race all ...er again. An unexceptional story ...uch spoilt by a dreary male chauvinism obsessed by fertility, semen, ...d proud breasts, etc.

...ANE ROMANO :

...ght From Time One

...pp. Sidgwick and Jackson. £1.95.

...ral projection is in full swing and ...n the hands of the Superpowers' ...litary. It is used primarily for ...nitoring the nuclear détente but, ...known to Washington and Moscow, there is another Dimension full ...threatening astral-Nazis who—in ...alternative "history"—won the ...cond World War. If that idea ...n't fill you with bored impatience (not to mention *déjà vu*) then you'll like the next 200 pages of cosmic skulduggery—a mixture of Dennis Wheatley, Ouspensky and any one of those cold-war paperbacks which held such sway over airport lounges in the mid-1960s.

JOHN BRUNNER :

Bedlam Planet

159pp. Sidgwick and Jackson. £1.75.

More interstellar colonization, this time on a planet which seems deceptively friendly. It turns out to be perfectly suitable for human life but the question John Brunner poses is whether human life is necessarily suitable for it. The idea is that a scientific materialist culture might be too inflexible to come to terms with a world that is similar but not identical to Earth, that its preconceived notions of "sanity" may have to be modified and, perhaps, a whole new mythology created, so that human psychology can comprehend the novel environment. It is a perfectly proper idea, but the main characters are all too neatly representative of different Earth cultures. The result is an emetically smug United-Nations atmosphere together with the pious presupposition that there is something sufficiently wonderful about humanity to make it worthwhile transplanting halfway across the galaxy.

THOMAS M. DISCH :

Getting Into Death

206pp. Hart-Davis, MacGibbon. £2.50.

One doesn't have to read far in this anthology to discover that Thomas Disch is a genuine writer: his story "The Asian Shore" (subtitled "A Tale of Possession"), in which an American exiled in Turkey turns gradually into a Turk, proves this. Unfortunately, there is another side to Disch—a soft hippy sitting round pads with cronies who have all dropped out of English literature courses. This persona produces jokey and solipsistic anecdotes about nothing in particular (and certainly not SF) which have their apotheosis in the section of the book devoted to "The complete short stories"—twenty-five little efforts mostly a few lines long. Sample:

> JESSICA, RAYMOND, AND JACK
>
> "Can you ever forgive me?"
> "Can *you* ever forgive *me*?"
> Neither of them could help it—they *had* to laugh.
>
> The End

One might call them pretentious if one could guess what they were pretending to be. The crystallized opacities and *visions fugitives* of marijuana are all very well, but literary reputations can also go up in smoke quite easily. Mr Disch would do well to remember that he has a perfectly respectable talent but that it is probably not proof against unlimited foolishness. If he wants another piece of sanctimonious advice, he should have a stab at getting into life instead of into death: it's a lot more difficult but it's worth it if it produces stories like "The Asian Shore"—this volume's single solid achievement.

DAVID GERROLD :

The Man Who Folded Himself

148pp. Faber and Faber. £1.90.

This would be good SF by any standards; in the present company it is outstanding. A nineteen-year-old student is bequeathed a belt which enables him to travel in time, which is hardly a new idea. What makes this book different is that it relentlessly follows through the implications of time travel, each one of which would normally satisfy an SF author as the germ for an entire novel.

As the narrator jumps ahead of himself, so he keeps having to go back to erase awkward details of his alternative lives. From early on in the story he has to learn, literally, to live with himself—sometimes there are as many as half-a-dozen versions of himself at different ages in the same room. He falls in love with himself as a male and achieves complete erotic fulfilment, but one of his other self-versions has produced a daughter with whom he also has an affair. Gradually he loses contact with reality and, far from owning the world by the power his belt confers, he experiences complete loneliness and deracination before his various selves hold a reunion in 1999 to witness the first of their number dying of old age. The whole thing has an uncanny allegorical force and underneath the diverting brilliance there begins to emerge, gratuitously, a genuine philosophic melancholy which Alfred Bester himself never managed in *Tiger! Tiger!* It has to do with the limits of self-knowledge being set by the repetitious nature of one's own compulsive behaviour. Altogether most impressive.

FRANZ ROTTENSTEINER (Editor) :

View from Another Shore

234pp. New York: Seabury Press. $6.95.

SF is mostly thought of as an exclusively American or British art-form—at least, by Anglo-Saxons. This book contains eleven stories by a variety of European writers which unfortunately go some way towards shoring up such arrogant notions. The dullest of the stories are hardly stories at all (and have a most peculiar old-fashioned flavour); the stories which are good seem all to be from Eastern Europe or Russia where, evidently, a long tradition of prudential obliquity is made to pay off when writing fantasy. Tales which are really small essays in satire, like Stanislaw Lem's, have a distinct edge which is all too rare in the self-congratulatory West.

STANISLAW LEM :

Memoirs Found in a Bathtub

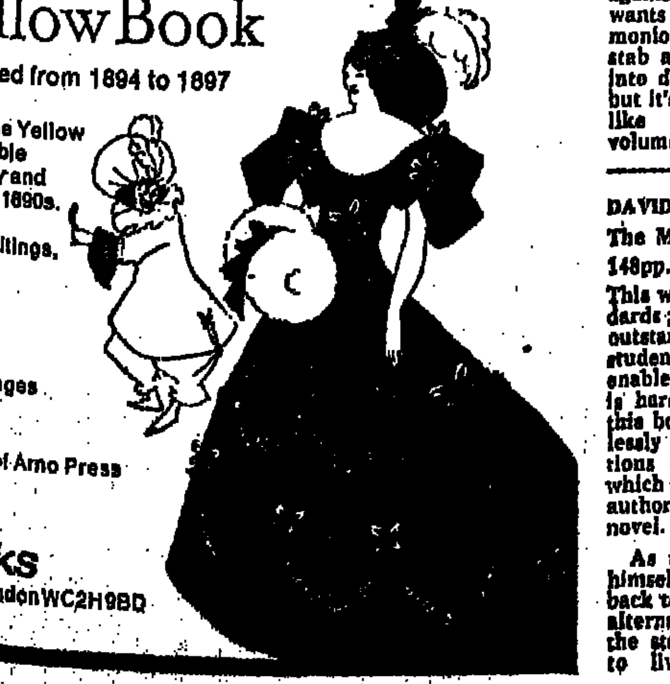
188pp. New York: Seabury Press. $6.95.

The promise of Lem's story in the Franz Rottensteiner anthology is not fulfilled by this novel. It purports to be some notes found in a buried and fossilized Third Pentagon a couple of thousand years after the allegedly calamitous disintegration of all the paper on Earth, and is one of those surrealist satires on bureaucracy so beloved by Central European writers from Kafka onwards. There is plenty of inventiveness, much that is heavily ludicrous, nothing that is menacing. Beneath the liveliness lies a fossil as dull as the buried building itself.

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Who was Pepys's Deborah Egmont?

BY RICHARD OLLARD

Among the most compelling stories in the *Diary* is that of Pepys's affair with his wife's maid, Deb. Willett. That Pepys himself felt it to be no ordinary liaison is clear not only from the tenderness with which he writes of her and from the pain he felt at parting, but also from his reintroduction of the theme into the great coda with which the *Diary* dies away:

> And thus ends all that I doubt I shall ever be able to do with my own eyes in the keeping of my Journal . . . and, therefore, whatever comes of it, I must forbear: and, therefore, resolve from this time forward, to have it kept by my people in long-hand, and must therefore be contented to set down no more than is fit for them and all the world to know; or, if there be anything, which cannot be much, now my amours to Deb. are past . . . I must endeavour to keep a margin in my book open, to add, here and there, a note in short-hand with my own hand.
>
> And so I betake myself to that course, which is almost as much as to see myself go into my grave. . . .

One of the pleasures still to come in the magnificent edition of the Diary prepared by Dr Latham and Professor Matthews is the full, authentic text of this climax of Pepys's domestic life.

What became of Deb. after Pepys, not without a struggle, abandoned his pursuit of her? No mention of her has been found in the massive documentation of Pepys's later life. Even the indefatigable Whitear, whose *More Pepysiana* (1927) traces, identifies and elucidates so much that in the *Diary* is partial or obscure offers no illumination of her subsequent career. Only Sir Arthur Bryant in the third volume of his biography *Samuel Pepys: The Saviour of the Navy* (1938, reissued 1949) has tantalized us with a conjecture. In Appendix E (page 400) he prints a letter from the Rawlinson MSS in the Bodleian as set out below:

> *A letter which Pepys received shortly before his retirement from a foreign correspondent, Mrs. Egmont, from the Hague. It is dated* 30 *January,* 1689 *and addressed to "Squire Pips" at York Buildings. It is conceivable, though not, I think, probable that the writer was Deborah Willett, the "Deb" of the closing months of the Diary whose liaison with Pepys made poor Elizabeth so jealous.*
>
> Honoured Sir,
>
> Having had formerly the honour to serve you, hope you will be pleased to be kind to the bearer hereof, which is my husband, in all you can. I am to come to England as soon as possible I can. Meantime I do beseech you to advise and asist my dear husband in what you in your prudence and wisdom and goodness thinks best, having heard his request. My service to yourself and Mr. Yures and his mother and aunt and the whole family. Pleas to pardon my boldness assuring you that whatever you do for my husband shall be thankfully taken from
>
> Your humble servant
> Deborah Egmont.
>
> Mr. Dispontain hath his love to you.
>
> *Rawl. MSS. A.* 179, *f.* 57.

In the course of research for my biography of Pepys which will shortly be published, I have found evidence that confirms, I think conclusively, the wisdom of Sir Arthur Bryant's reservations and establishes beyond any doubt the identity of Pepys's correspondent. In another volume of the Rawlinson MSS (A. 188 f. 369) is a deposition dated August 5, 1672 (NS), sworn before two Dutch aldermen of the town of Voorburgh by "Debra van Egmond young woman aged about 28 yeares" that she had seen "Majer Scott" go "several times that day" (May 15, 1671) past the house of his solicitor at the Hague, Charles Disponteyn. "Majer" Scott was, of course, the international crook who promoted himself to colonel before giving perjured evidence against Pepys and Sir Anthony Deane at the time of the Popish plot.

His activities, and Pepys's successful efforts to discredit him by investigating his lurid career, are amply dealt with in Sir Arthur Bryant's earlier volume *Samuel Pepys: The Years of Peril* (1935, re-issued 1948). We shall no doubt learn even more about him when Mrs Helen Truesdell Heath publishes her edition of the papers exposing his villainies which Pepys collected in self-defence and preserved under the title "My Two Volumes of Mornamont", an allusion to a (fictitious) country seat of which Scott claimed to be the proprietor.

For the present purpose, however, Scott's only importance is that he explains the presence of Deborah van Egmont in Pepys's correspondence files. That she could not conceivably have been the same person as Deb Willett is further established by her age: "about 28" in May 1672. Deb Willett had only been a schoolgirl when she came to the Pepyses less than five years earlier (*Diary* September 27, 1667).

How, it may be asked, did this Dutchwoman's evidence, sworn before two Dutch burghers eight years before, come to be available to Pepys in English at the time he needed it? The answer is to be found in another volume of the Rawlinson MSS (A173 f 142) where on August 19, 1680 Peter Fountayne attests to translating from Dutch to English "ye [illegible] this day given by Mrs D[illegible] Egmond, alias Netherway [illegible] ing Major John Scott, [illegible] six and twenty pages of [illegible] in English and signed [illegible] Marke of the said Debora [illegible] mond . . .".

"Alias Netherwy" [illegible] the scene some nine month[s] [illegible] at which Pepys and De[illegible] Egmont had actually me[t] [illegible] 188 f 367). On November [illegible] while still on bail to a[nswer] charges of treason that ha[d been] brought against him, Pepys [illegible] Bartholomew's Hospital [illegible] Edmund Page, a barber [illegible] take the evidence of Capt[ain] Neltherway then on his d[eath bed]. The Captain, whose Dutch [illegible] nursing him, made a long [illegible] statement about Scott's [illegible] activities when he was lo[dging at] Neltherway's house in [illegible] "about eight years ago, a[t the] beginning of the last Dutc[h war]". No doubt when Neltherw[ay died] Pepys with his deep sense o[f respon]sibility towards people w[ho had] exerted themselves on his be[half saw] to it that his widow was [able to] rejoin her family and fri[ends in] Holland. But of this there is [illegible] as I know, no direct evidence [illegible] the tone of the letter print[ed by Sir] Arthur Bryant.

Output and outlets

R. J. TARAPOREVALA:

Competition and its Control in the British Book Trade 1850-1939

242pp. Pitman. £3.50.

It has taken an Indian and a member of a family and firm well-known in the Indian book world to produce this useful survey of the control of competition in the distribution of books within and partly without the traditional book trade in Britain up to the Second World War. The matters reviewed by R. J. Taraporevala include resale price maintenance through the Net Book Agreement, the control over discounts to libraries and non-book trade distributors, and the curbing of competition through book clubs and such unorthodox selling methods as newspaper and tobacco gift coupon schemes. An historical summary of retail price competition from the end of the eighteenth century to the inauguration of the Net Book Agreement in 1900 has been provided by Professor B. S. Yamey, who also contributes a foreword mentioning such developments since the Second World War as the successful defence of the agreement in the Restrictive Practices Court in 1962 and the contrary decision in Australia in 1972. Most of the book is concerned with the present century, and much of it with the interwar years, although *The Times* "book war" of 1906-1908 is dealt with.

Although Mr Taraporevala's study covers no new ground, it is assembled from quotes from book trade reports and back issues of trade journals long out of print and not easily accessible. He shows that, although the selling of books at fixed prices throughout the retail book trade originated in 1890 from a publisher, Frederick Macmillan (and nowadays it is the publishers who are generally credited as the prime defenders of the Net Book Agreement), it was the booksellers who made the running, while many publishers did not fall into line until the First World War. Also it has been the booksellers who have supported restrictions on entry into the trade, on public library discounts and direct library trading with the publishers, as in some other countries, and they bitterly opposed what they regarded as the diversionary schemes of the hard 1930s when both publishers and booksellers were fighting for survival. The publishers, on the other hand, tended to maintain their right to supply as and whom they wished, though this independence was fettered by the need to support the traditional channels of book distribution.

Although Mr Taraporevala's selection of sources is fair, and his own comments restrained, it may be taken that he is less than enthusiastic about resale price maintenance for books today, and Professor Yamey implies that the case, later effectively deployed in the 1962 court hearing, was not proven by pre-1900 experience. Towards publishers Mr Taraporevala maintains a somewhat suspicious attitude, and for the inter-war years at least exaggerates the differences and opposition between them and the booksellers. To weigh the relative importance of trade reports, dead controversies and press correspondence is always difficult, particularly for one removed in time and subject to very different conditions. The most outspoken reports and the most trenchant letter-writers do not necessarily reflect the prevailing currents of opinion and practice. Too much is made here of the apparently autocratic independence of the publishers—perhaps their anarchic tendencies at least in the past might have been given equal weight and of the comparative in[illegible] ness of the booksellers.

It is an exaggeratio[n] [illegible] example, to say that in the 19[illegible] conflict between the interests [of] publishers and the interests [of] booksellers became acute [illegible] granting of trade terms [illegible] traders". These were [illegible] issues, for the publishers [illegible] eager always for new, and [particu]larly specialized, outlets fo[r] books, were fully aware of th[e need] to preserve traditional booksh[op dis]tribution, and as a body were [illegible] involved in gift schemes and [illegible] ist retailers. An example of [illegible] emphasis on a minor aspect [illegible] when Mr Taraporevala writ[es] [illegible] may be noted that the right of [illegible] to buy their own books at the [illegible] terms from publishers was [illegible] factor which enabled unrec[ognized] channels of distribution to [illegible] supplies of books at a discou[nt] [illegible] well-beaten trail of writers [illegible] their author's copies to [illegible] traders" was ever brought [illegible] It may be added that it was [illegible] lisher who devised book toke[ns] [illegible] not, as is implied, booksellers [illegible] of whom were dubious abo[ut the] scheme for a long period.

Although Mr Taraporevala [may] be criticized fairly for end[ing his] survey in 1939, in fact the re[sult is] rather like that of a footbal[l] report ending at half-time. The [di]vergence of interest betwee[n pub]lisher and bookseller in the la[st thirty] years, underestimated as it [is], has increased immeasurably [since] the war. What at one time wa[s] [illegible] been seen, if not as two op[posing] teams, at least as two pla[ying in] different leagues or by [illegible] different rules, is now to a [illegible] greater extent than can have [been] foreseen a generation ago, o[wing to] force of circumstances, one [illegible] side.

Books Received

[Art] and Architecture

[Brown], Blanche R. *Anticlassicism [in] Greek Sculpture of the Fourth [Cen]tury BC.* 104pp plus 103 plates. [Ne]w York: New York University [Pr]ess. $15.

[The] division between Classical and [Hel]lenistic is traditionally made at [323 B]C, the death of Alexander, but [for] the art historian this is no clear [brea]k. Blanche R. Brown sees a new [illegible], starting soon after 380 with [the s]culpture of Epidaurus, a style [whic]h concentrates on broken movement rather than flowing lines. This [is an]ti-classical in the sense of de[velop]ing principles antithetical to [Class]ical principles; it yields to the [illegible] style of the early third century, [and] is succeeded by the grand style [of P]ergamon. This analysis of the [anticl]assical style is excellent, and is [suppo]rted by a good collection of pic[tures] and a careful discussion of [chro]nology. It is surveyed against a [back]ground of the other arts, litera[ture], religion, philosophy, military [scien]ce, economic and social life, so [that] a good case is made for the new [style] as expressing a new sort of man, [no] longer a citizen of the polis in [the] old sense. One could quarrel [with] some details. But this is a care[ful b]ook with much well-documented [info]rmation and a point of view to be [consi]dered and respected.

[Bio]graphy and Memoirs

[Mays], Spike *Last Post.* 210pp plus [illegible] plates. Eyre Methuen. £2.95.

[Spike] Mays's latest autobiographical [instal]ment, *Last Post,* lures the [reade]r along with a carefully organ[ized] casualness. An unashamedly [senti]mental writer, he nevertheless [strive]s to conserve his emotion and [use it] as a kind of fuel. Little bitter[ness] attaches to such misadventures [as bei]ng manhandled by the railway [illegible] going down with double [pneum]onia, and developing copper [illegible] through counting the takings [of] the London Airport ladies' lava[tory]. This was after endlessly [frust]rated attempts to become a wel[fare o]fficer. Later he graduated to [the He]athrow press office, and now it [is his] turn to be frustrated. What [he rev]eals merely whets the appetite [for m]ore, about this sudden, danger[ous an]d still largely unknown transit capital. A little passing chat about travelling celebrities like the Burtons or Chi-Chi the giant panda, with agreeable touches of fantasy such as the escape of an army of tortoises which slowly invests the London to Bath road, makes good reading so far as it goes but it is not far enough. Probably the airport needs a book on its own.

Minton, H. Garland. *Blind Man's Buff.* 146pp. Elek. £2.50.

Blindness struck the author suddenly. This account of his subsequent experiences is marked by a passionate demand that the blind should be treated as individuals and not subjected to a standardized processing. The book is a change from the stoic chronicles that disability usually produces but H. Garland Minton spoils it by excessive complaint.

Short, Robin. *African Sunset.* 280pp. Johnson. £3.50.

Robin Short was one of the last generation of colonial administrators, serving in Northern Rhodesia and retiring in 1965 soon after that country had gained independence as Zambia. In this autobiography he writes with warmth and affection of the rural Africans among whom he served. Like many of his fellow officers, he was opposed to the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland which he saw, rightly, as being opposed to the standards to which they subscribed. A generation earlier, Mr Short would have served out his time and retired, remembered and respected as a straightforward, no-nonsense representative of the Crown. As it was, he was caught up in the rapid movement towards independence, and found himself increasingly out of sympathy with it. For him, Africa is represented by the chiefs and the rural people. The modern politicians are anathema. His book is extremely readable, but its strength lies in its informed nostalgia rather than its political perceptions and judgments.

Economics

Sharp, C. H. *Transport Economics.* 80pp. Macmillan. Paperback. 75p.

This paperback is one of a useful series designed for undergraduates and attempts very successfully to summarize recent work in a highly specialist branch of economics. It performs this function admirably within a certain limited orthodoxy which is likely to be sadly disturbed by radical relative price changes in various sources of energy. The basic problems are well stated, and there is a clear demonstration of the difficulties in finding solutions to such questions as to how much of the national income should be invested in transport and how this should be allocated between the various forms available to us. Refreshingly, the emphasis is on finding concise answers in a real world rather than in that haven inhabited only by other specialist economists. This is a stimulating pamphlet with an excellent bibliography.

History

DeMolen, Richard L. (Editor). *Erasmus.* 189pp. Edward Arnold. £3 (paperback, £1.50).

This book is basically a series of extracts from Erasmus's writings. There is no indication that anything has been newly translated from the Latin, and many signs that passages not hitherto published in English translation have leant on translations into another modern language. The choice of passages grinds no axe, but is relatively unadventurous. The brief introductions to the various sections of the book do, however, hark back to the long-outdated view of Erasmus as a third party between the Church and Lutheran Reform. The volume is too long and serious-minded to be of interest to any except specialists, and other students' needs for an introduction to Erasmian studies with sample texts have already been more expertly met.

Selby, John. *A Short History of South Africa.* 288pp. Allen and Unwin. £4.75.

The pages of this book abound in misconceptions. The brief accounts of Sharpeville and of the Treason Trial are more than misleading. This is hardly surprising, since John Selby believes that the Communist Party of South Africa, soon after it was founded in 1920, "took over control of several Bantu trades unions". He prefers to use the term "Bantu" because it is only the detested South African liberals who describe the Blacks as "Africans". There is a foreword (translated from the Afrikaans) by Commandant Jan Ploeger.

Philately

Pai, G. B. *Cochin Postmarks and Cancellations.* 110pp. Robson Lowe. £5.

There is a preciseness about G. B. Pai's account of the involved postal history of the Indian State of Cochin which produces order out of what might well be chaos. The classification of the various types of postmarks and cancellations, which provide the raw material of the postal historian's research, are clearly defined and illustrated, leaving little, but sufficient, room for the historical background. The result is a worthy reference work rather than a readable bedside book; however, it serves its purpose admirably. Inevitably, the demand for such a specialist work on a sphere of limited philatelic study means that the end product is expensive, but still well worth acquisition by anyone with a broad interest in the involved story of the now-superseded local state postal services of India.

Religion

The Translator's New Testament. 596pp. London: The British and Foreign Bible Society. £2.75.

A translation designed for those rendering into the various vernaculars in the modern mission field, who depend upon English as their primary source. It is the work of a team of scholars, some of whom are specialists in the use of English as a second language by Asian and African nationals today. The underlying Greek text is that of the United Bible Societies, published in 1966; and at the end are more than a hundred pages of notes on particular passages, followed by a glossary of select words which pose problems for any translator.

Travel and Topography

Brown, Raymond Lamont. *Robert Burns's Tour of the Highlands and Stirlingshire, 1787.* 82pp plus 50 illustrations. Ipswich: Boydell Press. £2.50.

In 1787 Burns went for four jaunts in Scotland. The first was to the Borders, and Raymond Lamont Brown has already published his journal of that tour. All that can be discovered about the other three, including a scrappy diary of one by Burns, is contained in this volume, with full annotations. It is a work of thorough scholarship for which the extensive world of Burns enthusiasts will be grateful; but only the eye of piety could find in it much of intrinsic interest. It has fifty illustrations, extremely well chosen, so far as possible reproductions of eighteenth or early nineteenth century prints.

War and Weapons

Pericoli, Ugo. *1815 The Armies at Waterloo.* 176pp including 177 illustrations. Seeley, Service. £5.80.

The 145 colour plates showing uniforms, helmets, belts, buckles, sabretaches, rank chevrons, epaulettes, saddle cloths and other accoutrements worn by the Allied and French armies at Waterloo were produced by Ugo Pericoli for the film *Waterloo.* Elizabeth Longford contributes an introduction, and Michael Glover has written the text and notes to the plates. He covers the June campaign and the arms, tactics and uniforms of the armies which took part in this landmark battle, explaining how and why the "amazing fancy dress" developed. This is an interesting and informative volume, slightly marred by errors and inconsistencies in the spelling of French and German words and proper names and by a lack of source references to quoted material.

Warner, Philip. *Dervish: The Rise and Fall of an African Empire.* 235pp. Macdonald. £3.25.

Dervish is not, in fact, the story of the rise and fall of the Mahdiya but rather the story of military operations in the Sudan between 1883 and 1898 seen from the point of view of the British troops who participated in them. Philip Warner shows little understanding of Islam in general or of the Mahdiya in particular, and his description of Gladstone as "a life-long Liberal who believed the English had no business in anyone else's country" betrays a no less shaky grasp of the political background in nineteenth-century England. Fortunately, however, many of the soldiers and civilians involved in the fighting who left records of it wrote well, and Mr Warner is wisely content for the most part to let them speak for themselves.

Wilkinson-Latham, Robert. *British Artillery on Land and Sea, 1790-1820.* 112pp plus 63 illustrations. Newton Abbot: David and Charles. £3.60.

This book describes the ordnance of the Royal Artillery and of the Royal Navy in use during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars. Besides the construction of guns and carriages, such aspects as powder, igniters and fuses are studied in some depth. There is a chapter on bomb ketches and fireships, as well as sections on gun exercises, on the positioning of men and horses, on the drill laid down for loading and firing field and garrison artillery, and on ships' guns and carronades. Rockets are dealt with, but more could have been said about the effects of using them in war. The sixty-three illustrations include plans and elevations of ammunition wagons and travelling carriages, and the names of gun and limber parts. Appendixes contain useful information on the uniforms worn by men engaged in gunnery, and weights and dimension tables of carriages, beds, wheels and trucks.

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Information, please

Anna Brownell Jameson: any information, letters, etc, for a biography.
Herbert Van Thal.
33 Queen's Gate Gardens, London SW7.

John Johnson, 1824 agent for James Adam Gordon of Knockespock in the Windward and Leeward Islands. He made detailed studies of life on the plantation and illustrated them with water colours. In 1827, there appeared No (1,2) of a series of views in the West Indies: engraved (by T. Fielding) drawings (by J. Johnson) taken recently in the Islands (London, Messrs Underwood). Any information, for a biography.
Walter Pilkington.
Hamilton and Kirkland Colleges, Clinton, New York, NY 13323, USA.

Sir Gerald Kelly, 1879-1972: any information or letters, for a biography.
Derek Hudson.
33 Beacon Hill Court, Hindhead, Surrey.

London Symphony Orchestra: any information about the development of the Orchestra from its foundation, particularly about its activities outside London, for a history of the Orchestra.
Maurice Pearton.
The London Symphony Orchestra Ltd, 1 Montague Street, London WC1B 5BT.

William Mulready, 1786-18[63]: [any] information about his p[aintings,] drawings and letters.
Marcia R. Po[illegible]
The Barber Institute of Fi[ne Arts], The University, Bir[mingham] B15 2TS.

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Lawrence Wod[ehouse]
School of Architecture, Prat[t Insti]tute, Brooklyn, N.Y. 1120[5].

C. Rajagopalachari, Gover[nor Gen]eral of India and Premi[er of] Madras: any reminiscences, [letters] or other biographical mat[erial].
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UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA
THE LIBRARY

APPLICATIONS are invited for a POST of SENIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT in the Cataloguing Department. Starting salary according to experience on a point within the range £1,524-£2,235. Candidates should be chartered librarians or have recently completed Part 2 of the Library Association examination. An interest in cataloguing, knowledge of at least one foreign language and academic library experience would be desirable.

Applications, giving full particulars of age, qualifications and experience, together with the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent not later than 8 March 1974 to the Librarian, University of East Anglia, Norwich, NOR 88C, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
NORTH-EAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE & SCHOOL OF ART
LIBRARY ASSISTANT (ART)

A LIBRARY ASSISTANT is required for the School of Art Library.

Candidates should have experience of library work but have a particular interest in art. Salary £672-£1,464 per annum according to age, qualifications and experience. Full-time superannuable post with average 37-hour 5-day week.

Application forms and further details (quoting Ref. LA 107) from the Principal at the College, Sheepen Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3LL, to be returned within 14 days of this advertisement.

HON. SOCIETY OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE

READERS' ADVISER
AP4/4, £1,926 to £2,535
GRADUATE TRAINEE LIBRARIAN
Trainee grade £1,242 to £1,926

READERS' ADVISER. A Chartered Librarian with experience of information retrieval and knowledge of legal materials is sought to administer the information services of this fine law library dealing with c 300 research inquiries a day from barristers, students and professional bodies. The person appointed will form part of a senior management team of eight professional graduate staff supported by eight technical and clerical staff.

GRADUATE TRAINEE LIBRARIAN. Candidates should be persons studying part-time to become Chartered Librarians or be student librarians who have passed Finals Part II and wish to obtain first-class experience and practical training before taking up a senior post. Some practical experience would be an advantage. Students completing their library studies Summer, 1974, will also be considered.

Conditions applicable to both posts: 35-hour, five-day week, generous holiday allowance, non-contributory pension scheme, free luncheons in hall.

Further particulars and application forms from: Librarian and Keeper of the Records, Middle Temple Library, Middle Temple Lane, London, EC4Y 9BT. Closing date: 22nd February, 1974.

LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON
Islington Libraries
LIBRARIAN
for the
NEW MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE
Salary AP5 £2,679 to £2,904 per annum (inclusive of London Weighting)

APPLICATIONS are invited from CHARTERED LIBRARIANS with considerable experience of branch library service. Experience of Mobile Libraries will be an advantage. The duties of the post include responsibility for and supervision of the Mobile Library, maintenance of the book stock and the control of staff.

Application forms are available from the Chief Librarian, West Library, Liverpool Road N1 1RD (Telephone: 01-607 0187), to whom they should be returned within two weeks after the appearance of this advertisement.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

LIBRARY ASSISTANT required to work in the library which serves members of the profession, research workers and postgraduate students. Duties will be concerned mainly with the day-to-day care of the collection of periodicals and general assistance to readers. Salary according to age up to £1,542 on appointment.

Application forms available from Mr. H. Cooke, Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

LIBRARIAN/INFORMATION OFFICER

Qualified LIBRARIAN required to manage expanding Library for economic consultants to the oil industry. Working knowledge of French, German and Italian desirable.

Write with full curriculum vitae to Petroleum Economics Ltd., 5 Argyll Street, London W1V 2DS.

WEST BIRMINGHAM HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
LIBRARIAN
Salary £1,686-£2,187 per annum

Initially this post will involve the organisation of a central Medical Library at Dudley Road Hospital, but duties will involve the provision of advice and assistance to the management and development of other medical libraries, providing a service to a wide range of hospital staff throughout this large hospital group. Previous experience in hospital or medical libraries desirable, and candidates must be qualified librarians.

Applications to, and job descriptions from: Group Personnel Manager, Box No. 293, Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham B18 7QH.
Please quote reference 704/TLS.

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY

JUNIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT required for the above Library. Suitable for candidates with five "O" levels, preferably school-leaver wishing to qualify. Five-day week. Salary at least £1,000 p.a.
Apply the Librarian, 21 Bentinck St., London W.1.

CHELSEA COLLEGE
University of London

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of LIBRARY ASSISTANT in the College Library. Library experience an advantage.

Salary on the following scales: £970 to £1,713 or £1,146 to £1,878, according to age and experience. Thirty-five hour week. Superannuable.

Applications, with the names of two referees, to the Librarian, Chelsea College, Manresa Road, London SW3 6LX, as soon as possible.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

LIBRARY ASSISTANT required in preparation for opening of medical library in new Royal Free Hospital at Hampstead in 1974.

Salary scale £1,554 to £2,034; 20 working days holiday.

Apply with names of two referees to the School Secretary, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 8 Hunter Street, London WC1N 1BP. Tel.: 01-837 5385.

CITY OF LONDON LIBRARIES
GUILDHALL LIBRARY

APPLICATIONS are invited for TWO POSTS in a large general reference library with strong historical collections:—

(1) RESEARCH ASSISTANT, for which applicants should be Chartered Librarians and a university degree would be an advantage. Salary: £1,587 to £3,475 with a proficiency bar at £2,544. Starting point below bar dependent on age and qualifications.

(2) ASSISTANT CATALOGUER, for which applicants should be suitably qualified and with some cataloguing experience. Age preferably not over 25. Salary on scale £1,587 to £2,766, according to qualifications and experience.

Application forms and further details obtainable from Librarian, Guildhall Library, EC2P 2EJ. Closing date: March 2, 1974.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
LIBRARY

APPLICATIONS are invited for a post of SUB-LIBRARIAN at a salary on the scale £4,038-£4,548. The successful candidate will have overall responsibility for Catalogues and be concerned with supervision and coordination in the whole field of technical processes and support services. Candidates should be graduates with suitable experience and a capacity for planning and management.

Forms of application and further particulars from the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT (please quote 63/10/AG). Closing date 12th March, 1974.

LIVERPOOL POLYTECHNIC
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

APPLICATIONS are invited from Chartered Librarians with technical library experience, for the post of ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN in the Engineering and Science Library. Duties will include recording the deployment and exploitation of bookstocks, and participation in readers' and information services. During term time there will be evening duties. General local government conditions apply. Salary: £1,551-£2,235 per annum.

Details available from Staff Office, Dept TLS, Liverpool Polytechnic, Richmond House, 1 Rumford Place, Liverpool L3 9RH.

LEICESTER UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH.

SENIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT required immediately. Initial duties will be in the Technical Services Division. Professional qualifications and/or degree desirable but not essential. Salary scales £[illegible] £2,298.

Applications for a part-time post will also be considered.

Applications in writing (with curriculum vitae and names of two referees) to reach the Librarian within two weeks of this advertisement.

APPOINTMENTS

The New East Sussex County Council

AREA LIBRARIAN

BRIGHTON

£3,273-£3,729

Applicants must be Chartered Librarians.
The person appointed will be responsible for providing a full library service to the Brighton District (formerly the County Borough of Brighton) within the County's determined policy and budget.
Application form and further details from Chief Personnel Officer, New East Sussex County Council, Pelham House, St. Andrew's Lane, Lewes, Sussex (telephone Lewes 5400 extension 666 or 697). Closing date 1st March.
This advertisement appears after consultation with the Local Government Staff Commission.
All other things being equal preference given to serving Local Government Officers affected by reorganisation.

New Northamptonshire County Council

Library Department

TECHNICAL LIBRARIAN

(£2,535-£2,820)

Applications are invited for this post which will become vacant on 1st April following the promotion of the present holder. Applicants who must be chartered librarians with several years experience will be based at the County Technical Library in Corby.

If you are interested and would like to know more about the post please contact Miss P. Groome (Northampton 34833 ext. 331 before sending your application (no forms) to the County Secretary, County Hall, George Row, Northampton NN1 1DN, to be received not later than 28th February.

This advertisement is issued following consultation with the Staff Commission and is restricted to local government officers currently employed in England (excluding London) and Wales.

TOTLEY-THORNBRIDGE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Applications are invited from qualified librarians for the post of

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

The successful candidate will be required to work as a member of a team in a modern library of 65,000 volumes and a developing Resources for Learning Centre.

Salary scale for Qualified Librarians £1,809 to £2,235 p.a.

Application forms and further details available from the Chief Administrative Officer, Totley-Thornbridge College of Education, Totley, Sheffield S17 4AB.

LIBRARIANS

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A vacancy exists in the Library of the Association for a CATALOGUER. Duties include cataloguing and classifying all monograph additions to the stock (some 2,000 per year). The Library is to be integrated with the [illegible] of the British Library on 1st April, 1974, and the appointee will take a part in catalogue adaptation to the eventual British Library system. Foreign language ability is a distinct advantage.

Salary at present on Library Association scale, £2,142 to £2,941, but similar British Library scale will be applied after 1st April.

Applicants should be qualified and preferably have had some cataloguing experience.

Write for further details to L. J. Taylor, Librarian, The Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE. Applications (no forms) should be received not later than 1st March, 1974.

CITY OF WAKEFIELD

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

APPLICATIONS are invited from suitably qualified persons for the above post.

Salary scale: A.P.II, £1,644 to £1,926.

Application forms and further particulars are obtainable from the Principal, Wakefield College of Technology and Arts, Margaret Street, Wakefield WF1 2DH, to whom completed forms should be returned within ten days of the appearance of this advertisement.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT required for general duties. Probable age 18 to 20. Commencing salary £1,140 to £1,278 per annum according to age and qualifications, rising by increments of £60 per annum to maximum of £1,608. Might be suitable for someone intending to go to library school. Two "A" levels preferred but not essential. Apply in writing, The Secretary, St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Paddington, London W2 1PG.

THE NATIONAL BOOK LEAGUE

an independent charitable trust is looking for a

DEPUTY DIRECTOR (ADMINISTRATION)

The successful candidate will be expected to take charge of the Accounts Department, prepare budgets, supervise the administration of the membership, organise the Executive, Council and other Committee meetings, buy paper and printing and deal with the running of the House including the staff. There is no age limit. Full details may be obtained from:-

The Director,
The National Book League,
7 Albemarle Street,
London W1X 4BB.

to whom all applications, including a curriculum vitae, should be sent, marked CONFIDENTIAL. Closing date: February 28th, 1974.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

We are an International firm of Accounts and Management Consultants and require a Library Assistant for our small, friendly Information Service. The work is varied and interesting with some typing. Previous library experience would be an advantage but is not essential.
Salary £1,450-£1,650 per annum, according to age and experience plus luncheon vouchers and 3 weeks annual holiday.
Please telephone or write for details to
Mrs. B. Miller
Room 505
Salisbury Square House
London EC4P 4AN
Telephone 01-600 6424
Ext. 583

DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICE

AREA REFERENCE LIBRARIAN (WEST) and COUNTY REFERENCE ADVISOR AP5 (£2,535–£2,820)

Following consultation with the Local Government Staff Commission applications are invited from Local Government Officers serving in England (excluding London) or Wales for the above post.
The person appointed must be a chartered Librarian with suitable reference library experience, and will act as Leader of the three Area Reference Librarians, coordinate reference facilities, and organise the provision of reference library facilities in the West Area.

Applications in writing giving full details of age, qualifications, experience, past appointments, present appointment and salary and naming two referees to the County Librarian, County Library, Colliton Park, Dorchester DT1 1XJ by 1st March.

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Appointment of Secretary

The Library Association invites applications for the post of Secretary, who is the chief executive officer of the Association. Applicants should preferably be under 50, and should have qualifications and experience in finance, law, librarianship, management or other professional fields.

The Library Association is the professional association of librarians and has a membership of over 22,000.
Salary on a scale £8,757 to £8,513 p.a.

Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary of the Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London, WC1E 7AE. Formal applications for the post must reach the Association by 11th March, 1974.

WIGTOWN COUNTY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL LIBRARIAN:

STRANRAER ACADEMY STRANRAER

Applications are invited from Chartered Librarians or from persons with similar qualifications for the appointment of School Librarian at Stranraer Academy, Stranraer, a 6-year comprehensive school with a roll of approximately 1,500 pupils.
The scale of salary applicable to the appointment is £1,809-£2,235 per annum (Qualified Librarian's Scale) with placing thereon according to qualifications and experience. Other normal N.J.C. conditions of service will apply to the appointment, and housing accommodation may be made available if required.
Further details of the appointment may be obtained from the undersigned, with whom applications stating relevant personal and professional details, together with the names and addresses of two referees should be lodged by 28th February, 1974.

D. R. WILSON,
County Clerk.

County Offices,
Sun Street,
STRANRAER.

BRITISH SUGAR

INDUSTRIAL LIBRARIAN

To assist our Head of Library Services in a recently established department at our Central Offices in Peterborough.

He/she will be expected to develop and execute his/her own ideas in all the usual activities of a well-organized industrial [illegible]

Previous experience in an industry-based library and qualifications of A.L.A. or A.I.Inf.Sci. are essential.

Salary in the region of £2,400.

Write with brief details for application form to :—

Personnel Services Manager
British Sugar Corporation Limited
Central Offices, P.O. Box 26, Oundle Road
Peterborough PE2 9QU

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

(ARCHIVIST)

Applications are invited from graduates (or final year students) in a relevant discipline for 5 positions (3 permanent and 2 short-term) in the PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND which is responsible for locating, acquiring, cataloguing and publishing documents, both official and private, relating to Ulster and Ireland.

(Preference will be given to candidates with a recognised qualification or experience in Archive Administration or Librarianship.)

The 3 permanent positions are for a Field Worker, a Reading Room Supervisor and a Cataloguer to classify and catalogue a wide range of new accessions. The 2 short-term positions are for Cataloguers to work on certain departmental papers and on the Dufferin and Ava archive.

Grading and commencing salary on the [illegible] (Grade II) £1,318-£2,177 and (Grade I) £[illegible] £2,607 (both scales are at present under review) will be related to qualifications and experience. [illegible] non-contributory pension scheme is in operation.

Please write or telephone for an application form quoting Ref SB 33/74/TLS to: Civil Service Commission, Clarendon House, Adelaide Street, [illegible] B12 8ND (telephone 0232-44300, ext. 28). Completed forms should be returned to arrive not later than 5th March, 1974.

NORTHERN IRELAND CIVIL SERVICE

Head Office

Assistant Archivist (RECORDS ANALYST)

Applications are invited for the above BSC post [illegible] based in London. The holder is responsible to the Senior Assistant Archivist for making inventories and surveys of records and for recommending retention periods for them. When required he will [illegible] Corporation Works and Offices on the establishment of records management procedures. He must be prepared to travel to any part of the British Isles during the course of his work.

Applicants should have a University Degree, preferably with a Diploma in Archivist Administration. Experience is desirable but not essential.

Applications and further enquiries, not later than the end of February, to:

Personnel Manager (Head Office),
BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION,
P.O. Box 403,
Grosvenor Place,
London SW1X 7JG

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

Libraries and Cultural Activities Division

Applications are invited from appropriately qualified candidates for the post of :—

Assistant Librarian

(School Library Service)
Salary A.P.3, £2,031-£2,340 p.a.

Application form and further details from the Borough Librarian and Arts Officer, Central Library, Romford, Essex, RM1 3AR. Returnable by 4th March, 1974.

APPOINTMENTS

Western Australian Institute of Technology

ACQUISITIONS LIBRARIAN

T. L. Robertson Library

A qualified graduate librarian is required to take charge of the Acquisitions Section of the library. The Institute is an expanding college of advanced education with a current student population of 9,000.

The successful applicant will be required to liaise with academic teaching staff in developing and maintaining a balanced library collection.

The staff complement includes five professional officers and 10 clerical assistants.

Salary range $A8,698-$A11,982

For further particulars and method of application write quoting LS5 to the Migration Liaison Officer, Western Australia House, 115 Strand, London WC2R 0AJ, England.

Applications close 8 March, 1974.

Librarians

in Government Departments

There are vacancies in the following Government Departments for candidates with professional qualifications and some practical experience.

Ministry of Defence

Royal Army Education Corps Centre, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

United Kingdom Land Forces Special Library, Salisbury, Wilts.

Department of the Environment

HQ Library, Marsham Street, London SW1. (2 posts.)

Property Services Agency, Whitgift Centre, Croydon, Surrey.

Department of Trade and Industry

Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage, Herts.

Starting salary may be above the minimum of the scale £1,539-£2,600 (higher in London and Croydon). Promotion prospects. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 6 March 1974) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants., RG21 1JB, or telephone BASINGSTOKE 29222 ext. 500 or LONDON 01-839 1992 (24 hour answering service), quoting G(2)/624/1.

ABERDEEN COUNTY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

COUNTY LIBRARY

MOBILE LIBRARIAN

(£1,809 to £2,235)

Applications are invited from Chartered Librarians for the above post based at Mintlaw. The successful applicant will be in charge of two mobiles and must have a clean driving licence and should either possess an H.G.V. licence or be prepared to obtain one within a specified period.
Housing or house loan may be available. Assistance with removal expenses (up to £100). Disturbance allowance payable in certain approved cases. Post superannuable.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from the Establishment Officer, County Buildings, 22 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, AB9 1HJ with whom completed applications should be lodged by 25 February, 1974.

Publisher Business Books

London

£4,000 +
Car provided

An established and successful company in the fields of communications and publishing requires an experienced and commercially attuned business book publisher to take full responsibility for the profitable running of this aspect of its operations. Age 30-40, candidates should have the creative ability to expand considerably a small but high-quality list. Existing contracts in business and academic circles are important. Salary will not be less than £4,000 plus car; contributory pension scheme and other fringe benefits.
Please apply in confidence to J. A. Lawton at ***P-E Consulting Group Limited, Lynnfield House, Church Street, Altrincham, Cheshire,*** *or telephone 01-235 5444 for a personal history form quoting reference N/308/728.*

P-E Consulting Group Limited Appointments Division, 14-20 Headfort Place, London SW1X 7HN Tel: 01-235 5444.

ROTHERHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL

Libraries, Museum and Arts Department

The Metropolitan District has a population in excess of 250,000. It is situated in a mixed urban, rural and industrial area of South Yorkshire—at the heart of Britain's motorway network.

LM20 Arts Officer

Salary SO1 £2,820-£3,165

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Principal Officer (Arts and Administration) for the organisation of arts and cultural activities, including publicity, promotion, marketing, equipment and premises. He will undertake day-to-day management of the Department's arts and cultural programme and maintenance of records. He will undertake field work and liaison activities with individual groups, organisations and Authorities concerned with the arts and with cultural affairs in general, and will encourage and foster all aspects of community involvement in the arts and cultural affairs.
Terms and conditions of service will be in accordance with those to be adopted by the Council.
Applicants who have already submitted an application for this appointment need not re-apply since all applications received will be considered at the appropriate time.
Applications forms from B. W. Ellis, Director of Personnel Resources, Civic Centre, Maltby, Rotherham to whom they should be returned by Monday, the 25th February, 1974.
This advertisement appears after consultation with the Local Government Staff Commission in England and other things being equal, preference will be given to serving Local Government Officers.

NEW CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL

County Library

Deputy County Librarian £3,784—£4,122

Applications are invited from Chartered Librarians for the post of Deputy County Librarian. Applicants should have a wide experience of management at a senior level in Public Libraries. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute ideas and enthusiasm, and have the expertise and energy to convert ideas into practice.

Write for further details to the County Librarian, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3HG. The closing date for receipt of completed applications will be 14 days from the date of this advertisement.

AUCKLAND CITY COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT OF

ART GALLERY DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for a Director for the Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand.
Salary in the range $NZ10,127 to $NZ10,516 to $NZ10,942 to $NZ11,365 per annum, plus superannuation benefits. Conditions of appointment and further particulars are obtainable from the Public Relations Officer, New Zealand House, The Haymarket, London W1, or from the Town Clerk, Auckland City Council, *Private Bag*, Wellesley Street, Auckland, New Zealand.
Applicants must hold a University Degree and/or the Diploma of the British Museums Association or equivalent, must possess professional knowledge of the European Fine Arts and also have administrative experience, preferably with a Local Authority. It is hoped that the successful applicant will take up the appointment on 15 July, 1974. Applications must be received by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 13 March, 1974, at the office of the Town Clerk, Private Bag, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND.

G. O. SIMS, Town Clerk.

Design Council PUBLICATIONS SALES MANAGER

The Design Council has a vacancy for a Publications Sales Manager to be responsible for the development and expansion of a new area of the Council's activities concerned with the marketing of a wide range of books and publications covering all aspects of design. It will be his task to promote the sales of books and publications aimed at both general interest and specialist markets. This will involve him in writing promotional literature, organising and controlling promotional campaigns, negotiating with publishers and distributors and selling direct to major bookshops.

Applicants for this post should have a good general education to 'A' level or degree standard followed by a successful record in book marketing.

The salary will be within the range £2595 £2809 (at present under review). There is a contributory Pension Scheme and 4½ weeks annual holiday.

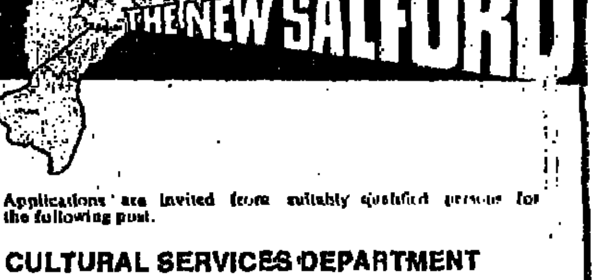
Please write for further details and an application form to the Establishment Officer, Design Council, 28 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SU (quoting no 553) and enclosing a self-addressed foolscap envelope for reply.

J. WHITAKER & SONS LTD. EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Editorial Assistants are required for permanent posts in the Book Lists Department, which is responsible for the company's book trade bibliographies, as well as the administration of the Standard Book Numbering Agency. All publications are computer produced but knowledge of computer applications is not necessary.
Candidates should be library trained and interested in cataloguing.
37½-hour, five-day week (no Saturdays). Luncheon Vouchers. Periodic bonuses. Salary according to experience and qualifications.
Applications should be sent to : J. W. Coates,

J. WHITAKER & SONS LTD.
13 BEDFORD SQUARE, LONDON, WC1B 3JE.

ARCHIVISTS



Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the following post.

CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ARCHIVIST

A.P. 5—S.O.1 £2,535-£3,165

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Manager of the Cultural Services Department for the preservation and conservation of Municipal records and for the development of a Record and Archival Section.

Application forms are obtainable from the Manager, Cultural Services Department, Salford Metropolitan District Council, Central Library, Chorley Road, Swinton, Lancs, to whom completed forms should be returned within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

Preference will be given to Local Government employees in England and Wales (excluding London).

This advertisement has been issued after consultation with the Local Government Staff Commission.

SALFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL